

01

ATSUSHI
OHKUBO

FIRE FORCE



FROM THE
CREATOR OF
SOUL EATER

FIRE FORCE

01

ATSUSHI
OHKUBO



FIRE FORCE

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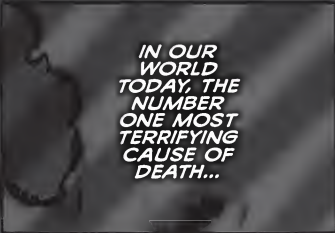


OLD AGE...

SUICIDE...

ILLNESS...

**PEOPLE DIE
FOR ALL
KINDS OF
REASONS.**



**IN OUR
WORLD
TODAY, THE
NUMBER
ONE MOST
TERRIFYING
CAUSE OF
DEATH...**

HRRRMMM...

**I GUESS THIS
COULD BE
CONSIDERED
A KIND OF
TERMINAL
ILLNESS...**



**...IS
DEATH
BY
FIRE.**

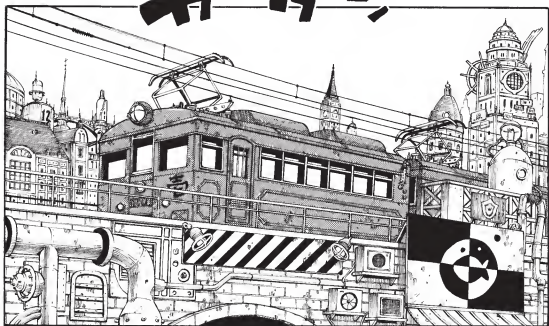
DEATH BY FIRE



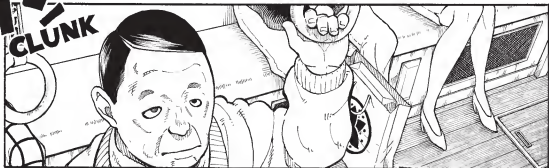
**CHAPTER 0:
SHINRA KUSAKABE JOINS THE FORCE**

**FIRE
FORCE**

KA-CLUNK
カ"ク、



カ"ク
CLUNK



FZHH

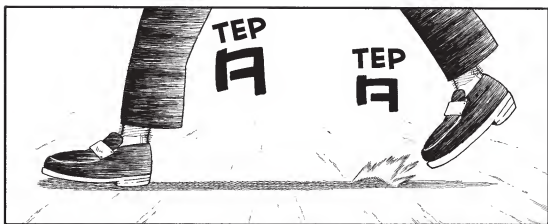


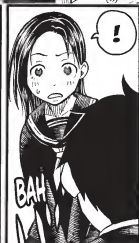
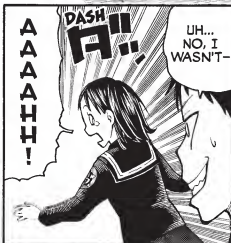
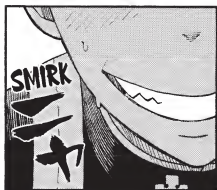
カ"ク
CLUNK

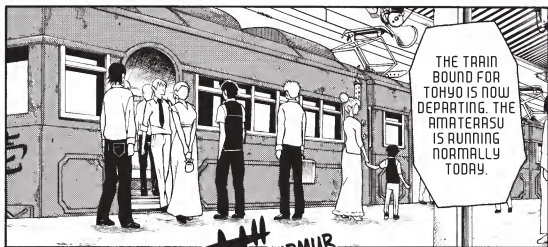


カ"ク
KA-CLUNK





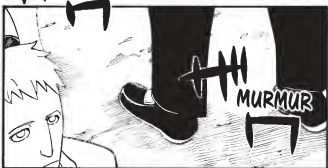




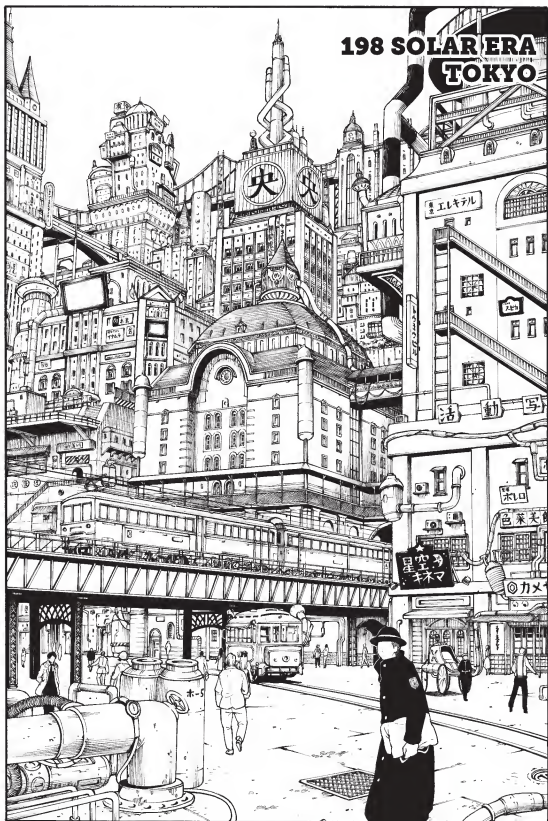
TH MURMUR

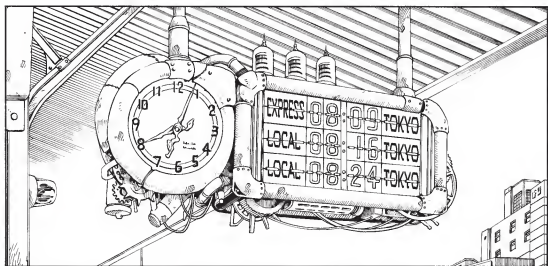


TH BUMP



198 SOLAR ERA
TOKYO





FLASH

I THINK
I'M GONNA
MAKE IT. I'D
BE IN BIG
TROUBLE IF
I SHOWED
UP LATE TO
MY FIRST
DAY ON
THE JOB.



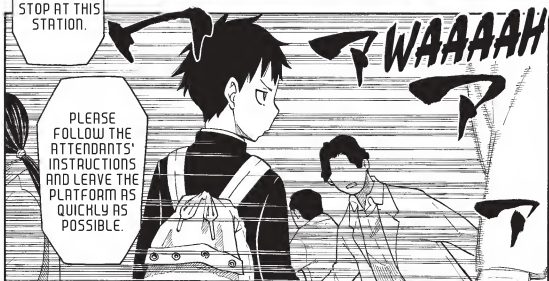


THE TRAIN
WILL BE
MAKING AN
EMERGENCY
STOP AT THIS
STATION.

A FIRE
HAS BROKEN
OUT ON A
TRAIN CAR EN
ROUTE FROM
HOMAGOME
TO TABATA!!



ATTEN-
TION ALL
STATION
PATRONS.



PLEASE
FOLLOW THE
ATTENDANTS'
INSTRUCTIONS
AND LEAVE THE
PLATFORM AS
QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE.



!!

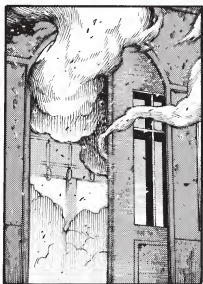
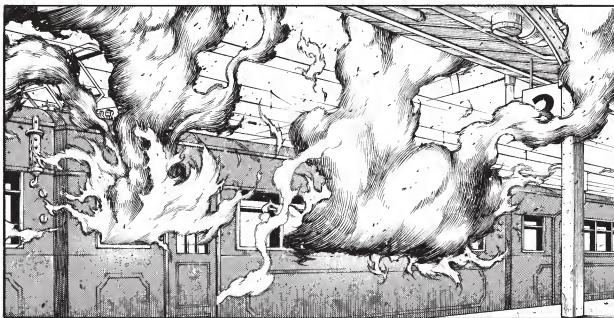
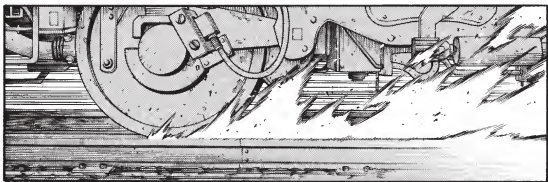


REMEMBER,
THERE ARE
ELDERLY AND
CHILDREN
PRESENT!!
PLEASE REMAIN
CALM AS YOU
EVACUATE THE
STATION!!

FWOOOSH

THAT'S
NO
CANDLE
FLAME.









ARRRRGH!



GYAAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAAAA
H!
H!

YOU'RE
TELLING ME
AN AVERAGE,
ORDINARY
HUMAN BEING
SUDDENLY
BURSTS INTO
FLAMES...AND
TURNS INTO
THAT?

SPONTA-
NEOUS
HUMAN
COMBUS-
TION...



YOU! WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!
GET OUT
OF HERE!
NOW!!



CLEAR
A PATH!!
SPECIAL
FIRE
FORCE!!
GO ON!!
OUT OF
THE
WAY
!!

I'LL
PUT
YOU
OUT OF
YOUR
MIS-

THAT'S
GOTTA
HURT...

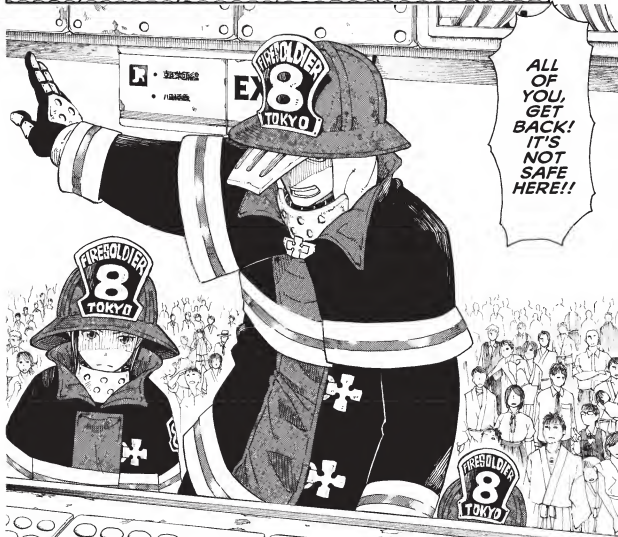


FZHHH

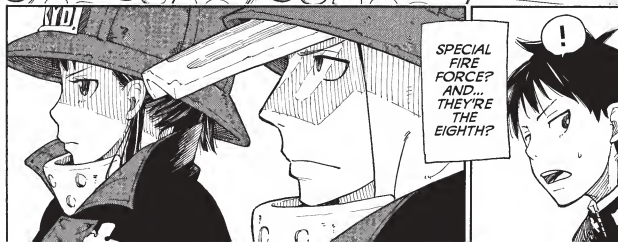
YOU
CAN'T
PUT OUT
THOSE
FLAMES
WITH
THAT,
SIR.

WHAT?

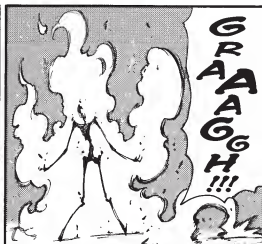
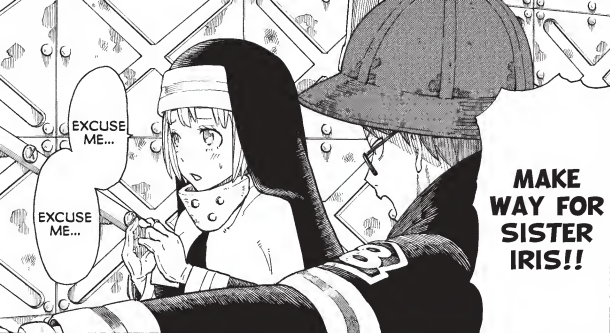




ALL
OF
YOU,
GET
BACK!
IT'S
NOT
SAFE
HERE!!



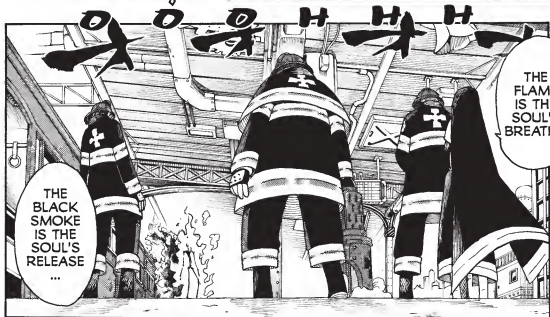
SPECIAL
FIRE
FORCE?
AND...
THEY'RE
THE
EIGHTH?





YES, SIR!

SISTER IRIS,
PLEASE
BEGIN THE
PRAYER.



THE
BLACK
SMOKE
IS THE
SOUL'S
RELEASE
...

THE
FLAME
IS THE
SOUL'S
BREATH...



FIRING
SPECIAL
EXTIN-
GUISH-
ING
GRENADE
!!



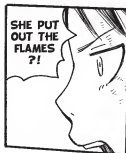
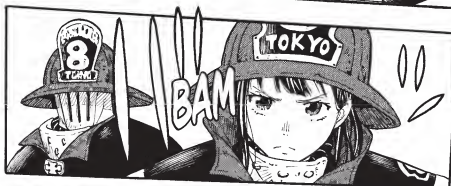


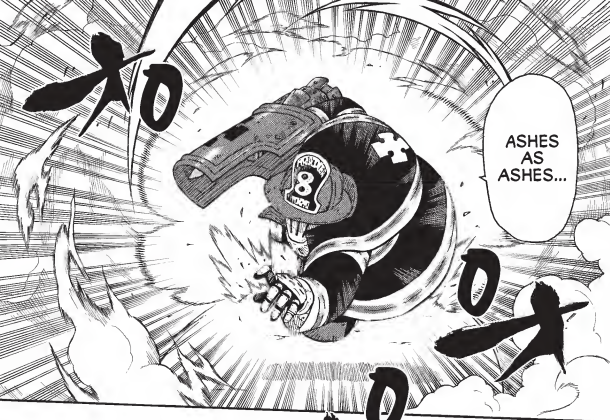
READYING
THE PILE
BUNKER
FOR CORE
DESTRUCTION!!

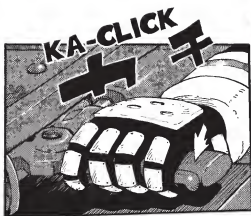
BWAAH
#

AARRGGH!

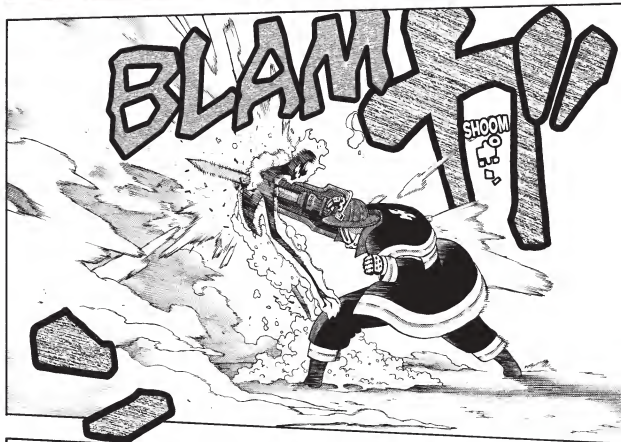
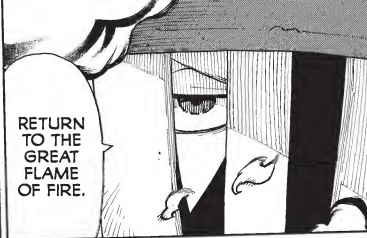








RETURN
TO THE
GREAT
FLAME
OF FIRE.



LÁTOM.

WHAT
I'VE
ALWAYS
WANTED
TO DO.

THIS IS
IT...

WHOA...

SNAP

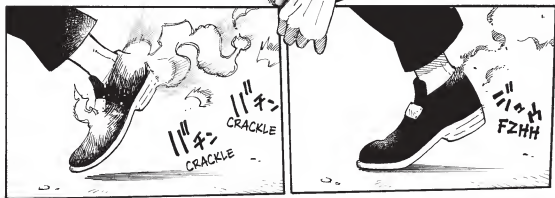
SIZZLE

IT'S RIGHT
ABOVE
THAT NUN!
DOESN'T
SHE SEE IT?!

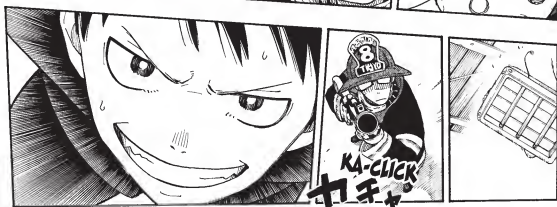
KRA-KLONG

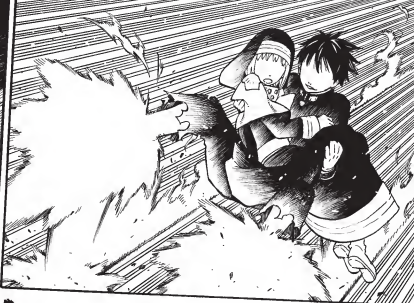
!!

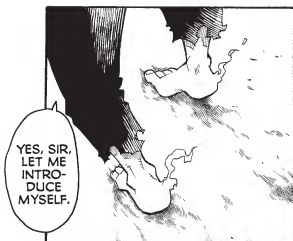
DASH

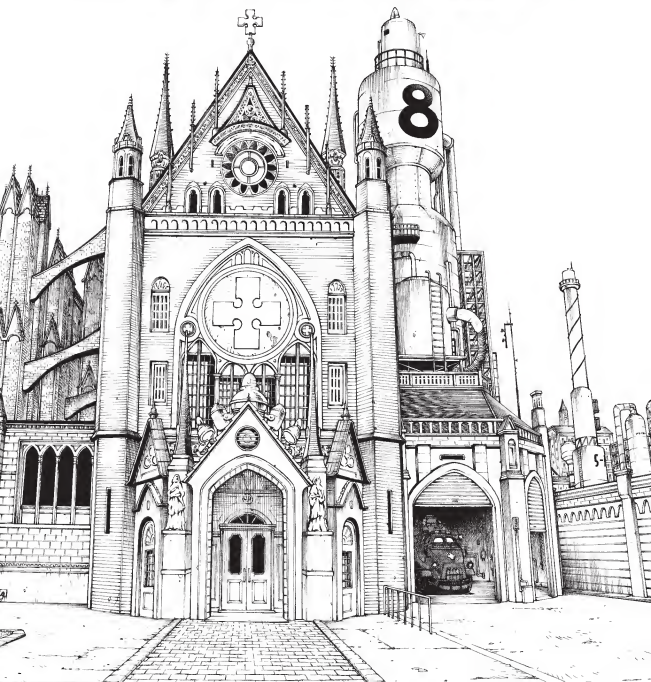


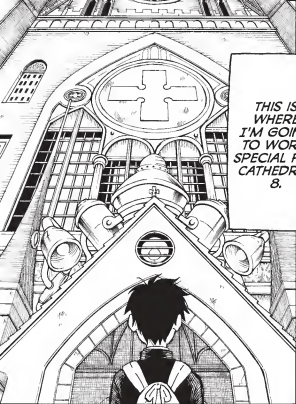
B-BWOH



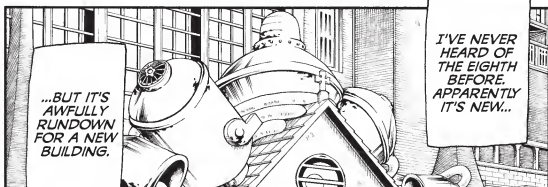
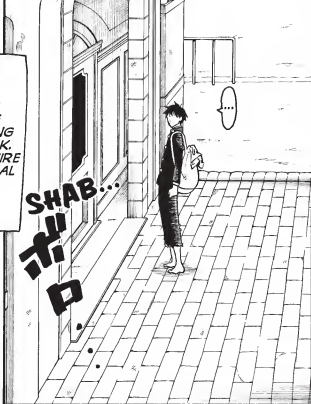








THIS IS
WHERE
I'M GOING
TO WORK.
SPECIAL FIRE
CATHEDRAL
8.



...BUT IT'S
AWFULLY
RUNDOWN
FOR A NEW
BUILDING.

I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF
THE EIGHTH
BEFORE.
APPARENTLY
IT'S NEW...



SHINRA.
COME
IN.

UH.

YES,
SIR.



IF I'M
GONNA BE
ON THE
FORCE, I'D
RATHER
BE IN ELITE
COMPANY
1.



CRAP...
HE
HEARD
ME...

N...
NOT
AT
ALL...

YOU
THINK
IT'S
RUN-
DOWN?



EXCUSE
ME, SIR...

OH!
THERE
YOU
ARE!



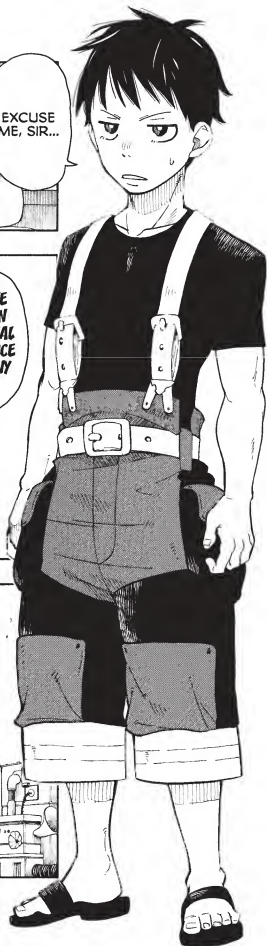
I'M THE
CAPTAIN
OF SPECIAL
FIRE FORCE
COMPANY
8.

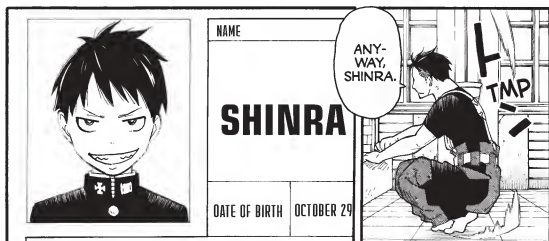
AKITARU
ŌBI.

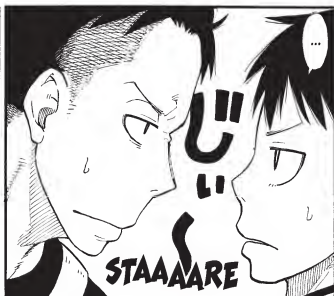
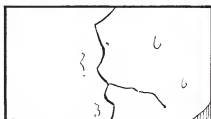


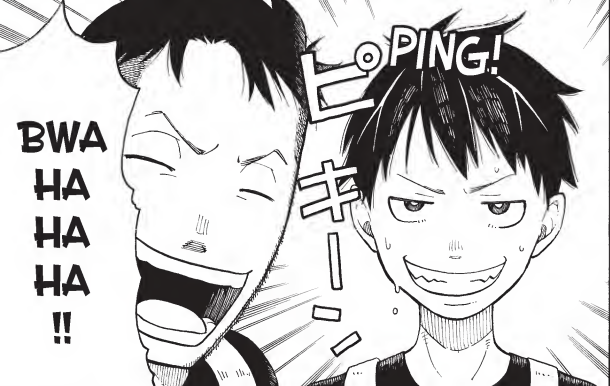
YOU
COULD AT
LEAST STOP
TRAINING
LONG ENOUGH
TO GREET
THE NEW
RECRUIT.

OH...
RIGHT.











**I'M
HERE
TO BE
A HERO
!!**



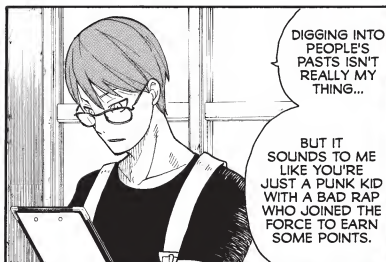
I DON'T HAVE A
PROBLEM WITH
HEROICS, BUT
FIRE SOLDIERS
WORK TOGETHER!
REMEMBER,
THERE'S NO "I"
IN TEAM.

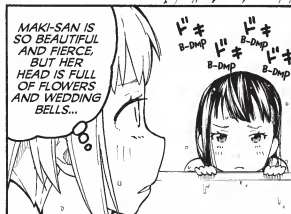
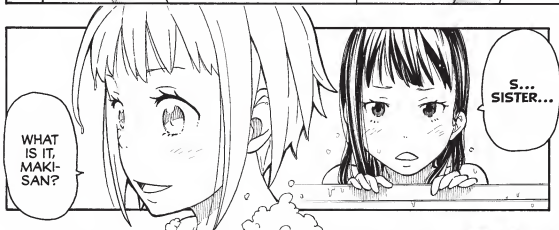
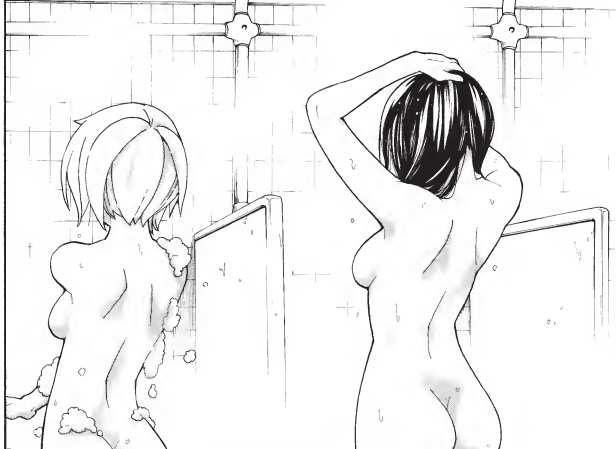


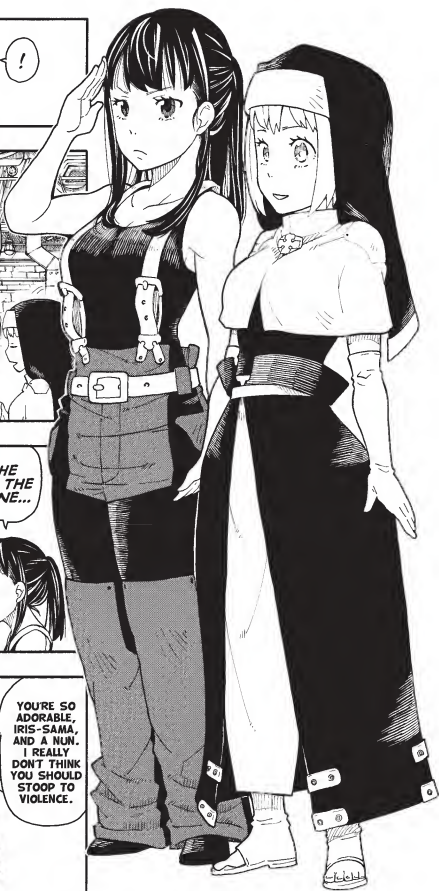
BUT I
UNDERSTAND
THAT AT THE
ACADEMY THEY
CALLED YOU
"THE DEVIL"
BECAUSE OF
AN INCIDENT
FROM YOUR
CHILDHOOD?

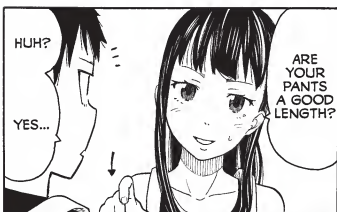


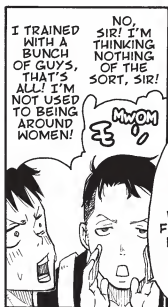
A
HERO?

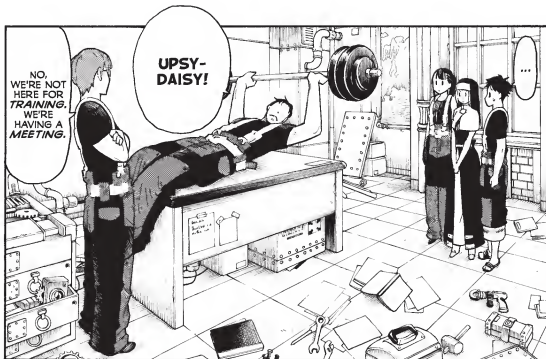


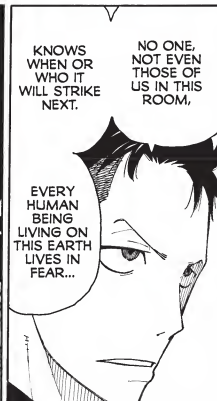
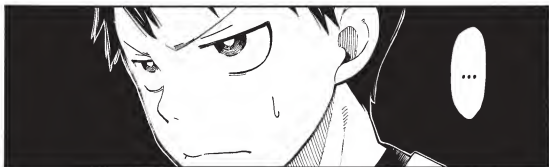
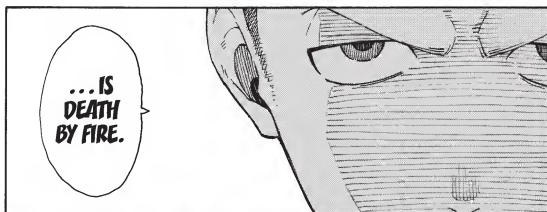










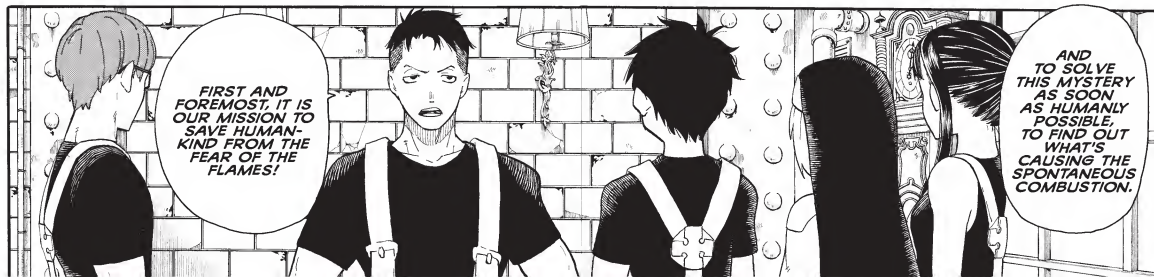




LATER,
WHAT WE CALL
SECOND AND
THIRD GENERATION
VICTIMS ADAPTED
TO THE FLAMES AND
DEVELOPED POWERS
TO CONTROL THEM...
BUT THOSE PEOPLE- THE
FIRST GENERATION
VICTIMS- THEY LOSE
THEIR MINDS AND
WREAK HAVOC UNTIL
THEIR LIVES BURN
OUT. THEY ARE
THE DREADED
INFERNALS.

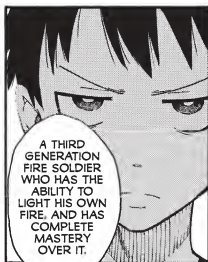
IT IS
OUR JOB, AS
MEMBERS OF
THE SPECIAL
FIRE FORCE,
TO EXTINGUISH
THEIR FLAMES,
SAVING THE
SOULS OF
HUMAN AND
INFERNAL
ALIKE.

IT ALL
BEGAN ONE
DAY WHEN
PEOPLE STARTED
BURSTING INTO
FLAMES. THESE
ARE WHAT WE
CALL THE FIRST
GENERATION,
VICTIMS OF
SPONTANEOUS
COMBUSTION.



FIRST AND
FOREMOST, IT IS
OUR MISSION TO
SAVE HUMAN-
KIND FROM THE
FEAR OF THE
FLAMES!

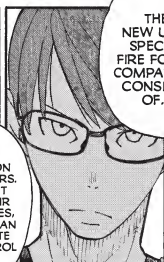
AND
TO SOLVE
THIS MYSTERY
AS SOON
AS HUMANLY
POSSIBLE,
TO FIND OUT
WHAT'S
CAUSING THE
SPONTANEOUS
COMBUSTION.



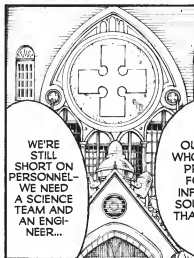
A THIRD GENERATION FIRE SOLDIER WHO HAS THE ABILITY TO LIGHT HIS OWN FIRE, AND HAS COMPLETE MASTERY OVER IT.



...TWO SECOND GENERATION FIRE SOLDIERS. THEY CAN'T IGNITE THEIR OWN FLAMES, BUT THEY CAN MANIPULATE AND CONTROL FIRE.



THE NEW UNIT, SPECIAL FIRE FORCE COMPANY 8, CONSISTS OF...



WE'RE STILL SHORT ON PERSONNEL—WE NEED A SCIENCE TEAM AND AN ENGINEER...



AND OUR NUN, WHO OFFERS PRAYERS FOR THE INFERNALS' SOULS, AND THAT MAKES FIVE!



THEN THERE'S ME, A FIRE-FIGHTER TURNED FIRE SOLDIER, WITH NO POWERS.



I'M GOING BE A HERO...NO, I HAVE TO BE A HERO.



BUT WITH OUR POWERS COMBINED, WE WILL SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION!

...ABOUT
THAT
FIRE!

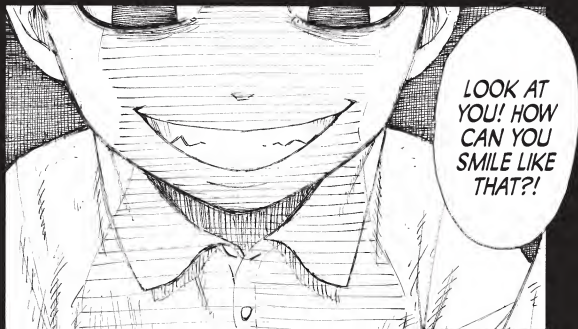
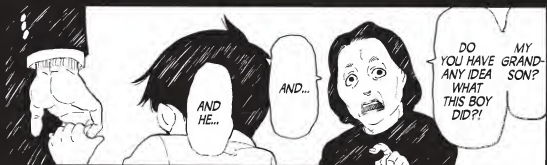
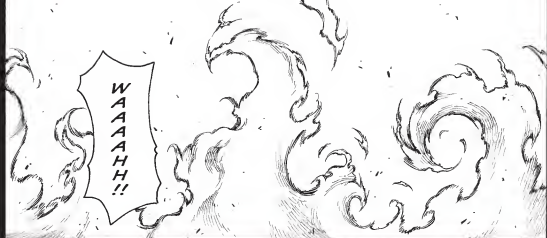
AND I
WILL
FIND
OUT THE
TRUTH...

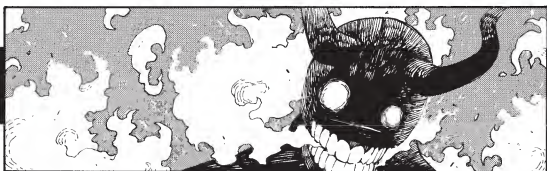
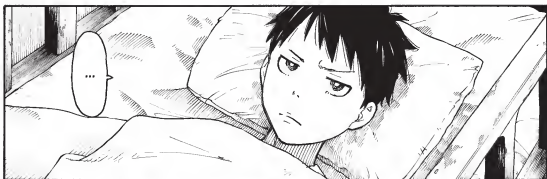
I MADE
MOM A
PROMISE,
AND I'M
GONNA
KEEP IT!!

THAT
SOUNDS
AWESOME!
♡

I'M
GONNA
BE A
SUPER-
HERO AND
PROTECT
YOU AND
SHŌ!
MOM!!

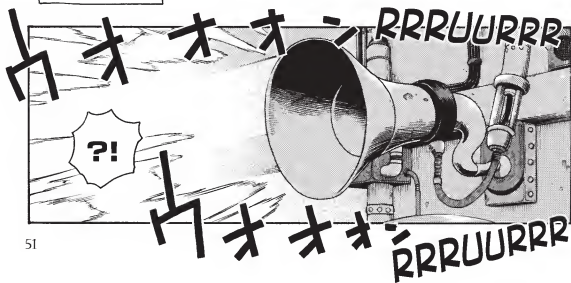
I'M
GONNA
BE A
HERO!

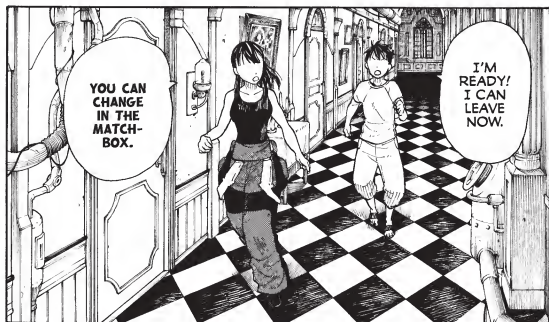
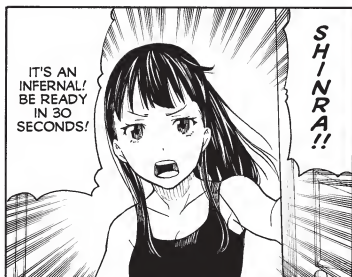
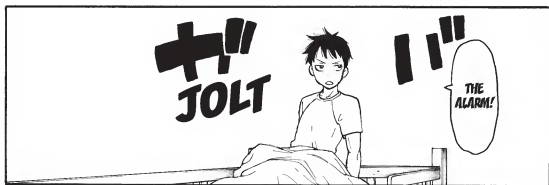




THERE WAS
A BLACK
SHADOW
THERE...AND
IT WASN'T
ME.

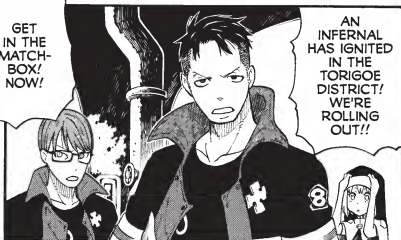
THAT DAY...
I SAW A
BLACK
SHADOW...





GET
IN THE
MATCH-
BOX!
NOW!

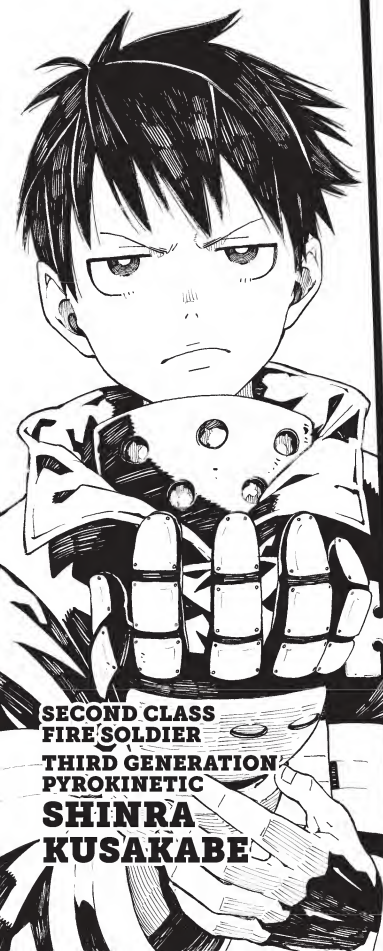
AN
INFERNAL
HAS IGNITED
IN THE
TORIGOE
DISTRICT!
WE'RE
ROLLING
OUT!!



**SPECIAL
ARMORED
FIRE ENGINE:
AKA...THE
MATCHBOX.**

I HAVE
TO BE A
HERO.

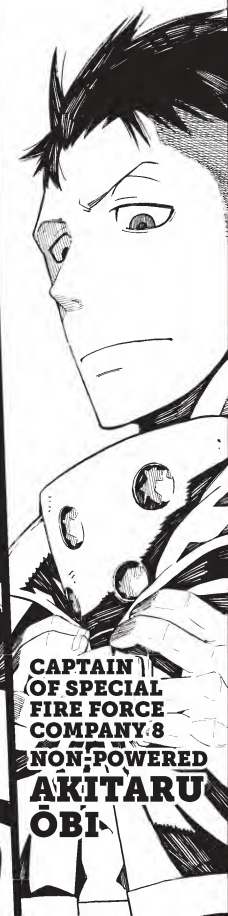




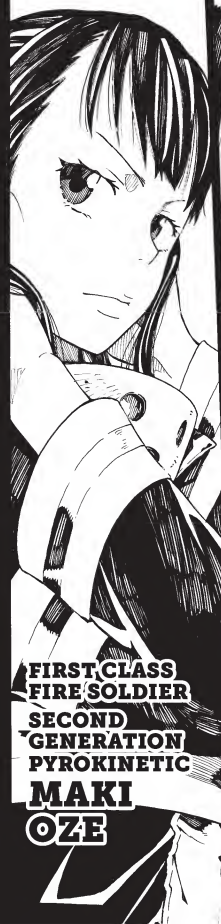
**SECOND CLASS
FIRE SOLDIER**

**THIRD GENERATION
PYROKINETIC**

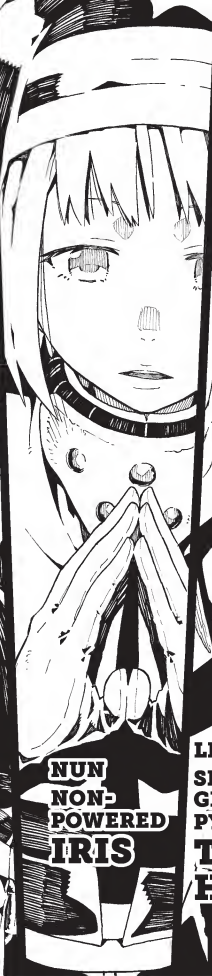
**SHINRA
KUSAKABE**



**CAPTAIN
OF SPECIAL
FIRE FORCE
COMPANY 8
NON-POWERED
AKITARU
OBI**



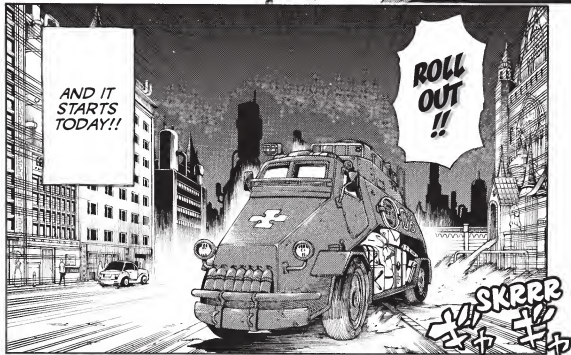
**FIRST CLASS
FIRE SOLDIER
SECOND
GENERATION
PYROKINETIC
MAKI
OZE**



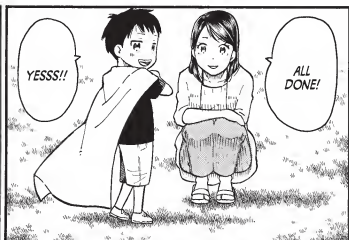
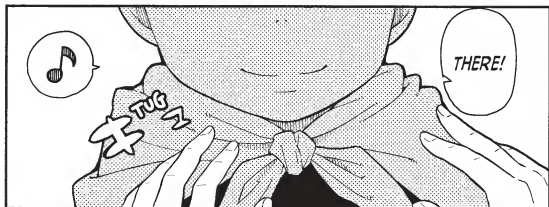
**NUN
NON-
POWERED
IRIS**

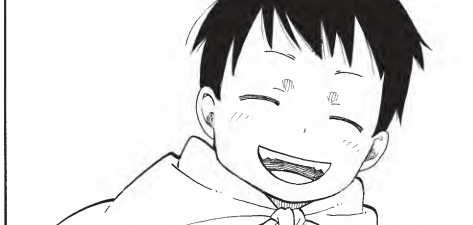


**LIEUTENANT
SECOND
GENERATION
PYROKINETIC
TAKEHISA
HINAWA**

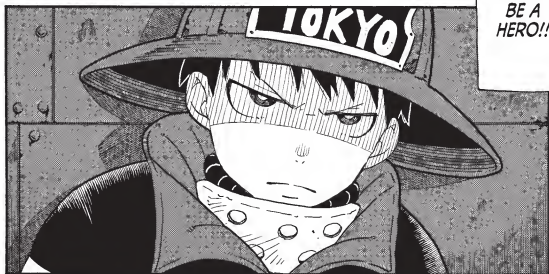


CHAPTER I: FIRST RUN

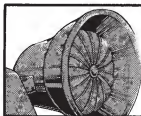




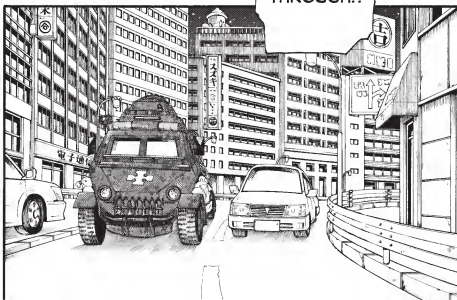
I'M
GONNA
BE A
HERO!!

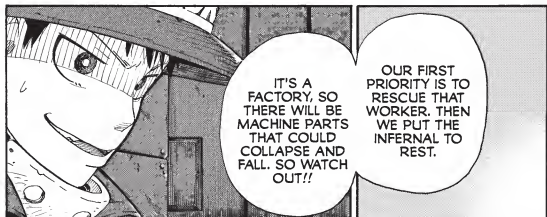
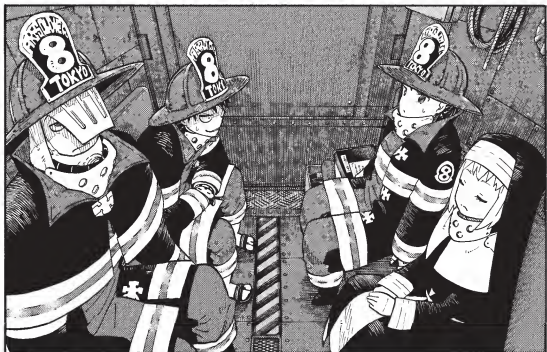


WE'RE
ALMOST
TO THE
SCENE!



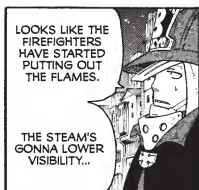
EMERGENCY
VEHICLE
COMING
THROUGH!!

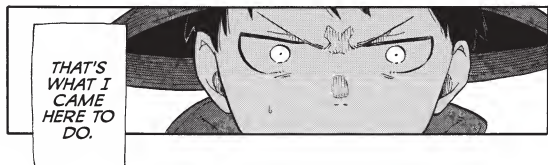
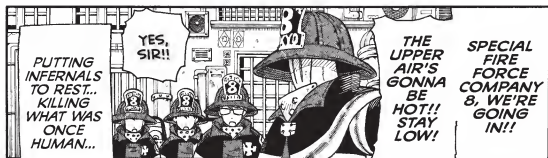






Sign: Kawaguchi Fixtures, Inc.





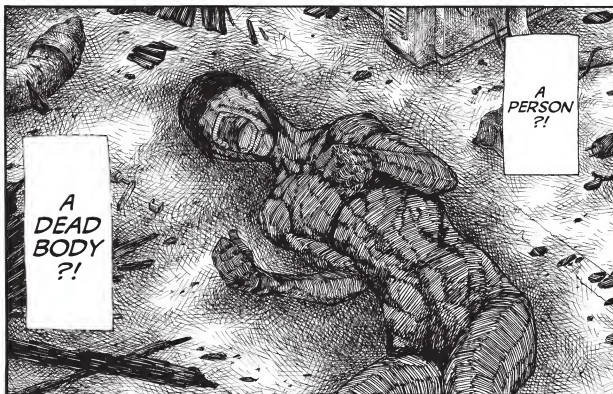


A
BURNING
BUILDING
...

TOKIO

SAFETY FIRST

FIREFIGHTER
8





GUESS
THAT'S
THE
WORKER
WHO
DIDN'T
GET OUT.



AAAAAGGGHH!!



IF ONE
OF US
FALLS
BEHIND,
WE ALL
DO.

I THOUGHT
YOU WANTED
TO BE A HERO.
FIRE SOLDIERS
DON'T TAKE
OFF WITHOUT
THEIR CREW.

HUH...
ME...
?!

SHIN-
RA!!

ARE
YOU
OKAY
?!

IN THIS
DARK
WORLD OF
FIRE AND
SMOKE...

NEVER
CUT THAT
BOND!!

...THE BLUE
REFLECTIVE
TAPE WE
WEAR IS A
BOND THAT
TIES US
TOGETHER.

CAPTAIN
ŌBI DOESN'T
HAVE THE FIRE
RESISTANCE
WE DO...BUT
HE'S JUMPING
RIGHT INTO
THE SEA OF
FLAMES.

THEN
I CAN
DO IT,
TOO!!

THAT
WON'T
BE A
PROBLEM,
SIR!

HAVING
FEAR IN
YOUR
HEART
KEEPS
YOUR
HEAD
COOL.

BUT
DON'T
LET IT
MAKE
YOU A
COWARD.

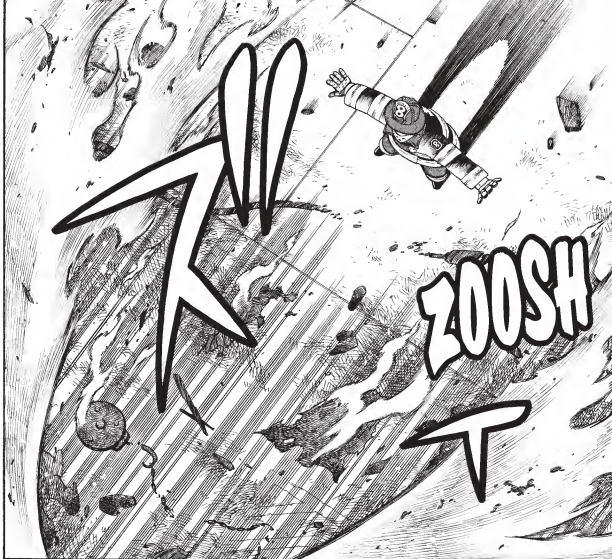


MAKI,
YOU'RE
UP.

LOOKS
LIKE THE
INFERNAL'S
UP AHEAD.

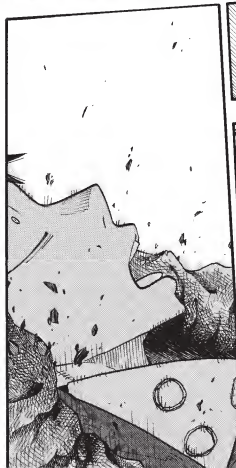


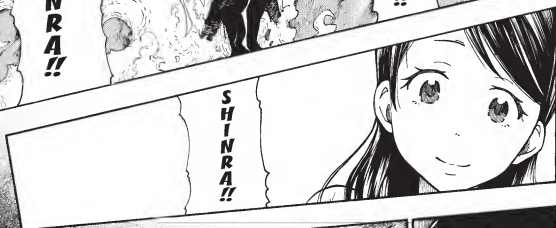
STAND
BACK,
EVERY-
ONE.



SCNNWLLRRR
* * *







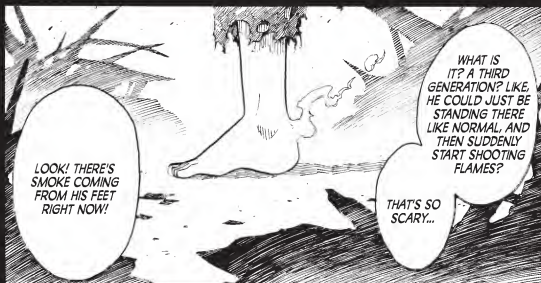


HIS BROTHER
SHO-KUN WAS
JUST A BABY...
I HEARD THEY
COULDN'T EVEN
FIND HIS
BONES.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE A
BOY WOULD
INCINERATE
HIS OWN
MOTHER.

HE LOOKS
LIKE JUST
A NORMAL
BOY RIGHT
NOW,
BUT...

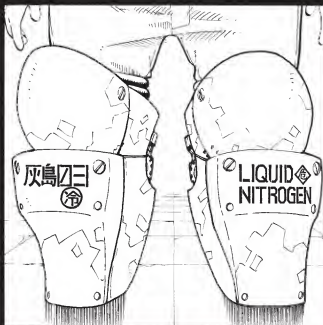
THEY SAY
THE FIRE
STARTED
WITH
HER SON,
SHINRA-
KUN.



LOOK! THERE'S
SMOKE COMING
FROM HIS FEET
RIGHT NOW!

WHAT IS
IT? A THIRD
GENERATION? LIKE,
HE COULD JUST BE
STANDING THERE
LIKE NORMAL, AND
THEN SUDDENLY
START SHOOTING
FLAMES?

THAT'S SO
SCARY...



Shoe: Hajima 03, Cold

HAIJIMA INDUSTRIES

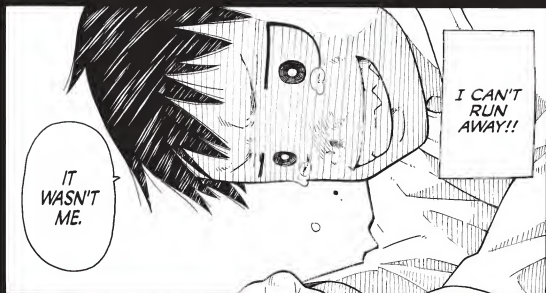


THIS IS A CONTAINMENT DEVICE TO KEEP YOUR FEET FROM STARTING FIRES. IT DOESN'T HURT, DOES IT?



YEAH... I SAW.

DID YOU SEE HIS FACE? HE KILLED HIS MOTHER... AND HE'S SMILING.





HE GIVES
ME THE
CREEPS.



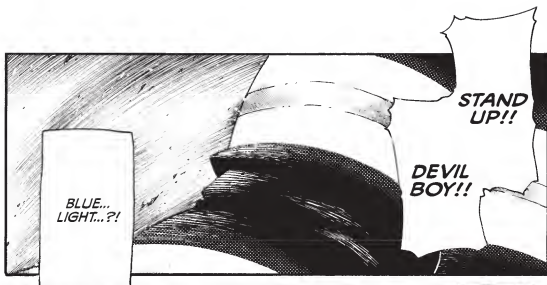
KUSAKABE...
ISN'T HE THE
ONE THAT...
Y'KNOW... HIS
FAMILY...

LOOK AT
THAT STIFF,
TWISTED
SMILE...

I HAVEN'T
BEEN ABLE
TO SMILE A
REAL SMILE
SINCE THAT
DAY.

HE'S A
DEVIL.





BLUE...
LIGHT...?!

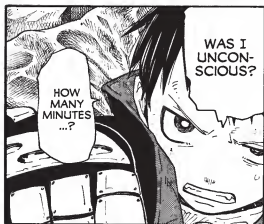
**STAND
UP!!**

**DEVIL
BOY!!**



...MY
HAND?

IS
THAT...



HOW
MANY
MINUTES
...?

WAS I
UNCON-
SCIOUS?



IF YOU
CAN
STAND,
THEN
STAND!!

ARE
YOU
OKAY
?!?

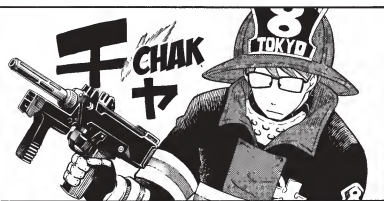
ABOUT
FIVE
SEC-
ONDS
OR SO!

WHAT
?



FOR A
KID WITH
SUCH A
GRANDIOSE
NICK-
NAME,

**YOU
REALLY
ARE
PRETTY
PATHETIC,
AREN'T
YOU!!**





**YES,
SIR
!!**

**THE
TIME IS
21:10. COM-
MENCING
OPERATIONS
TO LAY THE
FOREMAN'S
WIFE TO
REST!!**



**MAKI
AND I WILL
GET HER
ATTENTION.**

**THE ONLY
WAY TO STOP
AN INFERNAL
IS TO CRUSH
THE CORE IN
ITS HEART.**

**SHINRA! AS
I'M SURE
YOU'RE
AWARE,**



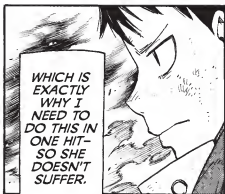
**11:00
CLOP**



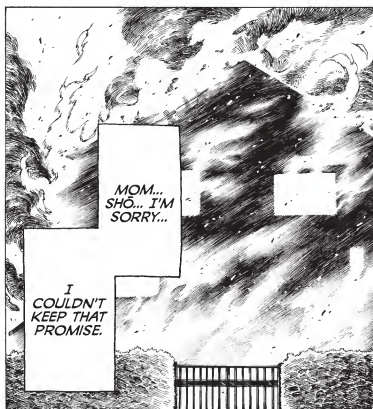
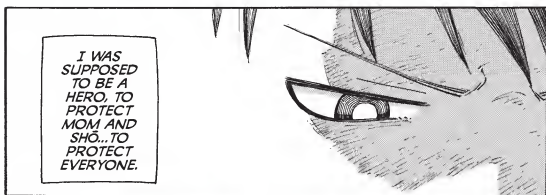
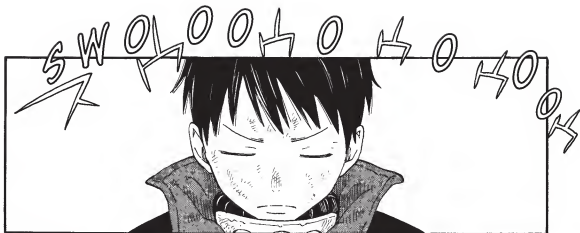
**BUT
DON'T DO
ANYTHING
CRAZY.**

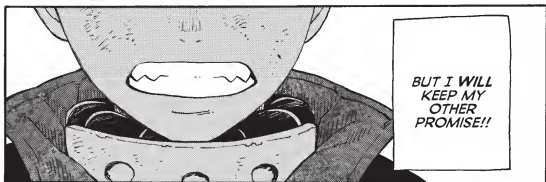
**WHEN THE
CHANCE
COMES, USE
THOSE FEET
OF YOURS
TO TAKE
HER DOWN
IN ONE FELL
SWOOP.**











**BUT I WILL
KEEP MY
OTHER
PROMISE!!**



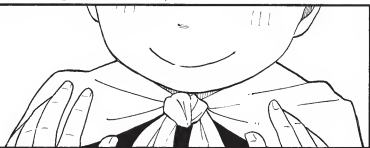
**HERE
I GO,
MOM.**



**I AM
NOT A
DEVIL
!!**

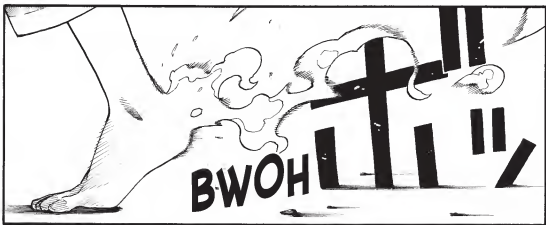
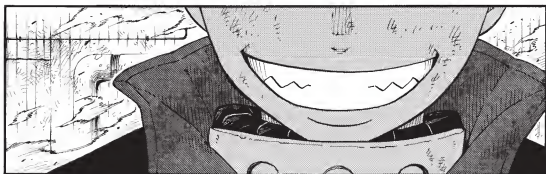
**I
HAVE
TO
BE A
HERO
!!**

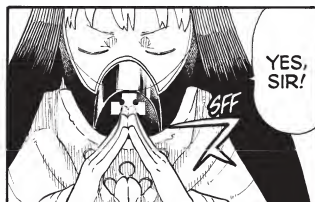
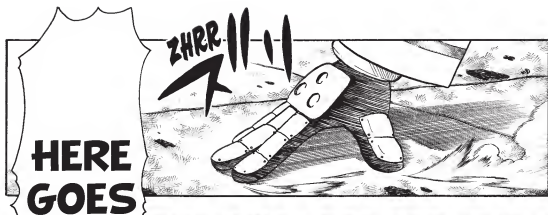
THERE!



*GO
DO YOUR
THING.*



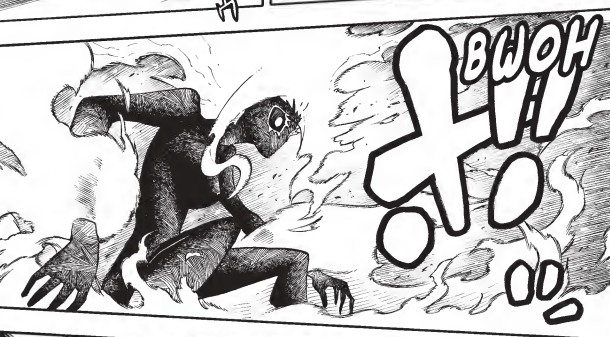


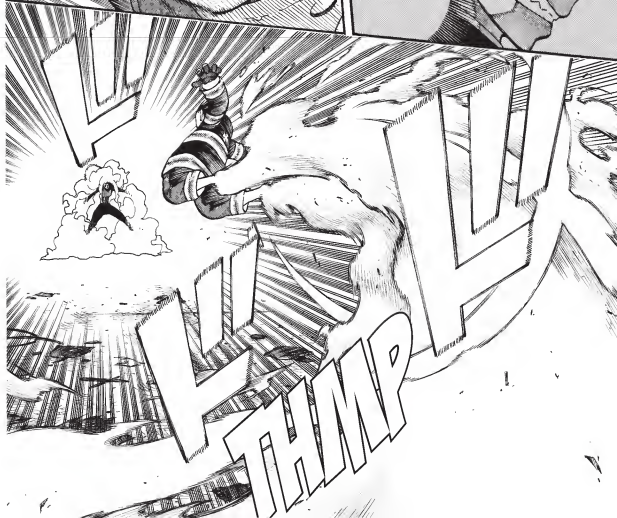




SHINRA!
AIM FOR
THE
CORE
!!

CAP-
TAIN
!!





THE BLACK
SMOKE IS
THE SOUL'S
RELEASE...
ASHES AS
ASHES...

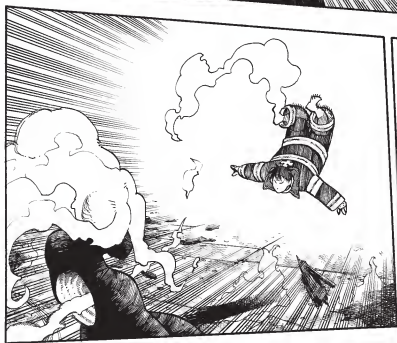
BWAH

KRNK
ん

BWOH

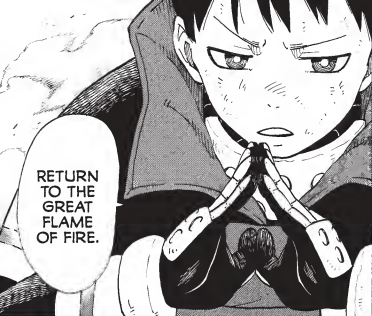
**MAY
THY
SOUL
!!!!**

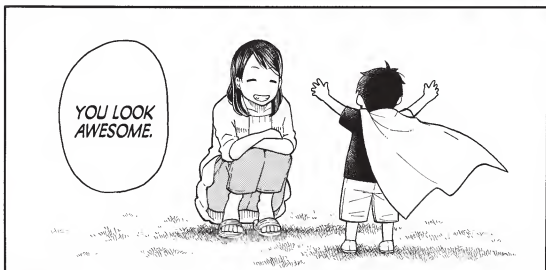


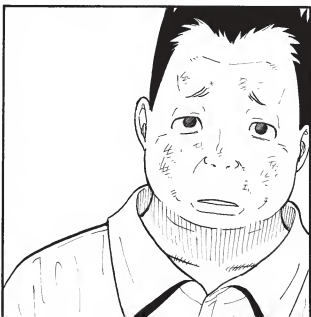


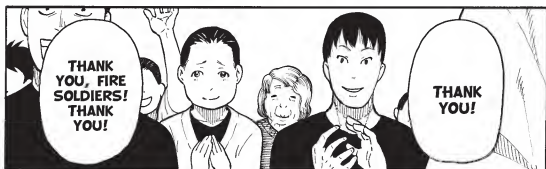
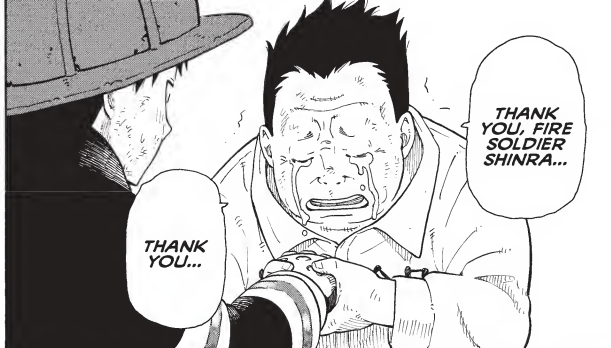
SO
THAT'S WHAT
THIRD GEN
FIREPOWER
LOOKS LIKE...

WOW
...











YOU JUST
TOOK YOUR
FIRST STEP
TO BECOMING
A HERO!

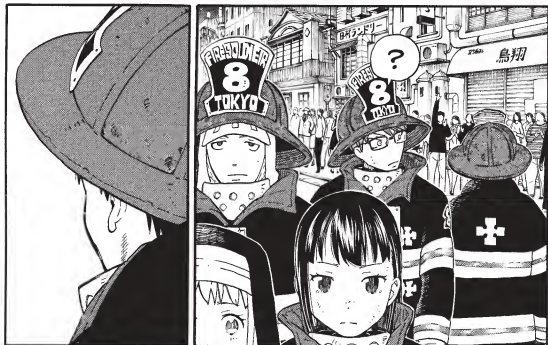


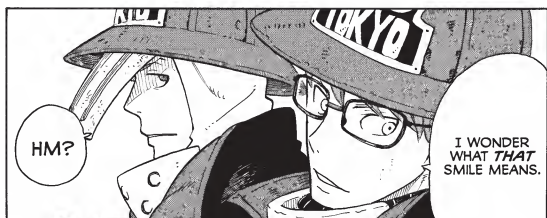
YOU'RE
GONNA
GET A LOT
OF THIS
APPLAUSE
FROM
NOW
ON.



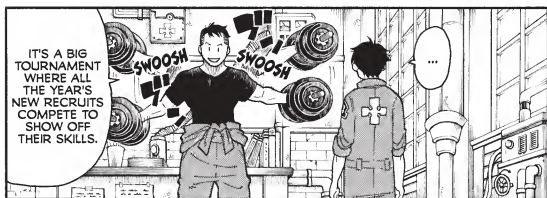
KONK!!

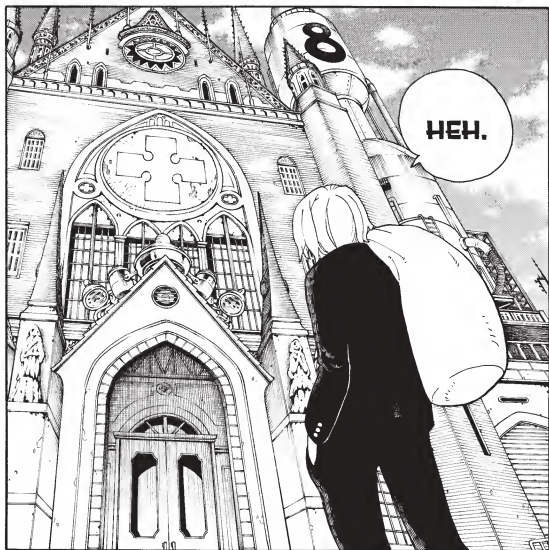
LET'S GO.
THEY'RE
TRYING TO
PUT OUT A
FIRE HERE.





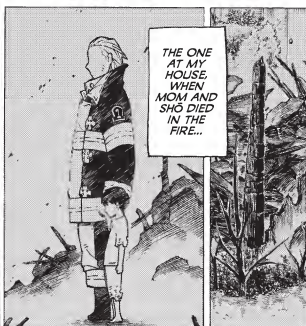
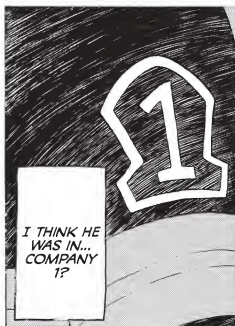
FIRE FORCE

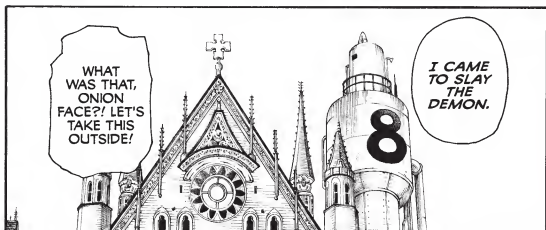


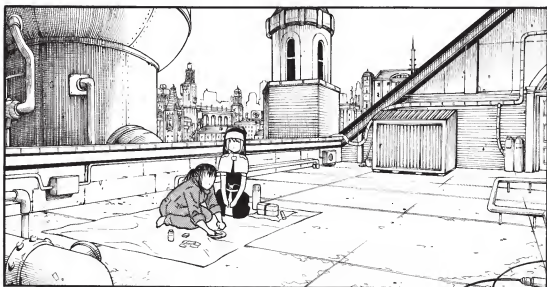


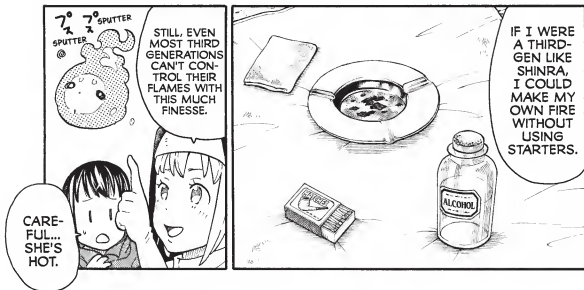
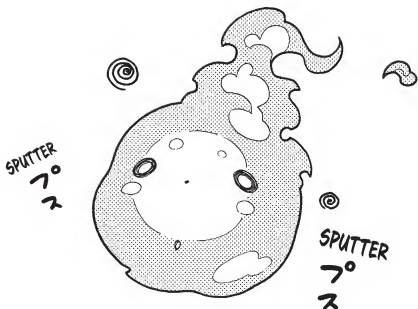
CHAPTER II: THE DEVIL, THE KNIGHT, AND THE WITCH

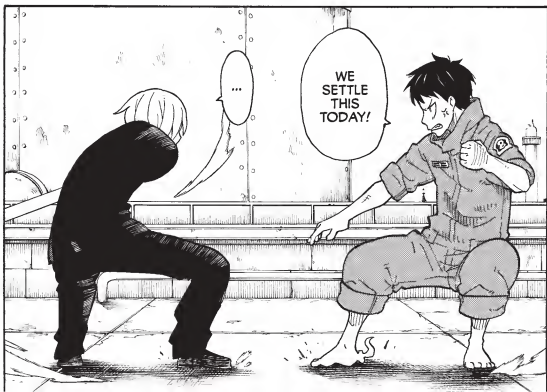
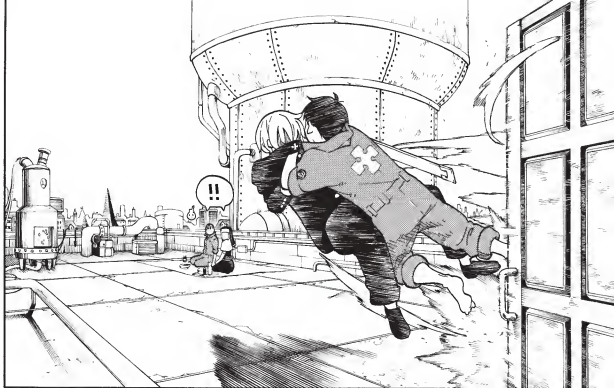


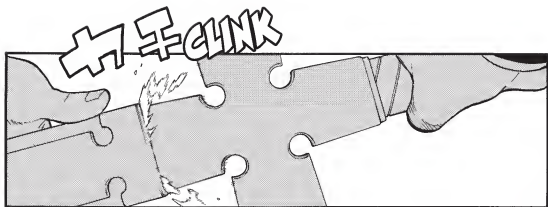








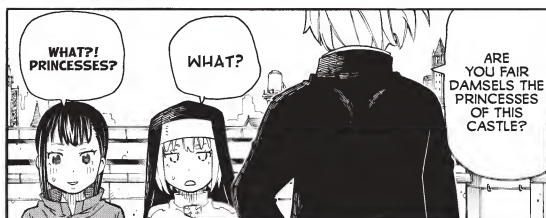


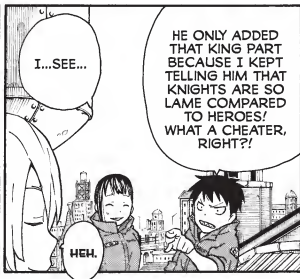
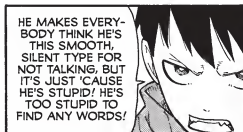
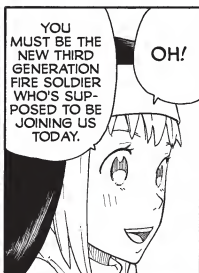


SFF ㄥ 〃

LET
ME SHOW
YOU THE
DIFFERENCE
IN OUR
FIREPOWER.





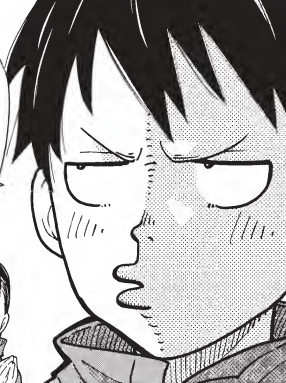




HEH.

HE GETS
ALL THE
GIRLS.

OOOHH...
THERE'S
THE
PROB-
LEM.



KNIGHT
KING.

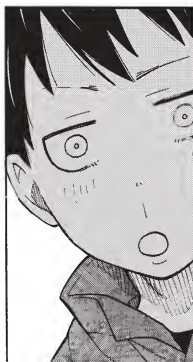
HEY
!!

SHIN-
RA-
SAN?



NO
ONE CAN
RESIST A
KNIGHT.

MY
AMBITIONS
ARE *WAY*
HIGHER
THAN HIS!!



I THINK
YOU'RE
PRETTY
AWESOME,
TOO.





WHAT?!
I'M
GONNA
KILL
YOU,
PUNK
!!

MAMA'S
BOY.



YOU'RE
AWESOME.



ニ
イ
...
SMIRK...

WHAT
WAS
THAT?!



LET ME
SEE THAT
AWKWARD
SMILE,
DEVIL.

Hat: Head Spa



ビ
ッ
FIP

LIEU-
TENANT
HINAWA!



WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

I CAME TO
SEE WHAT
ALL THE
RACKET
WAS UP
HERE.



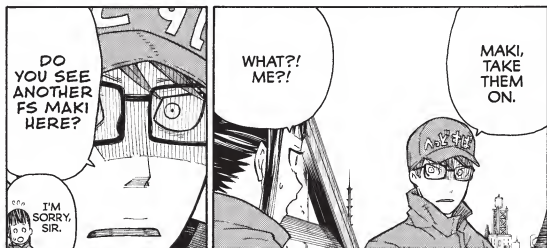
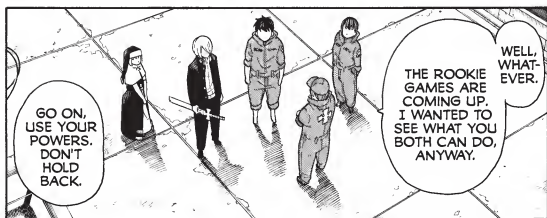
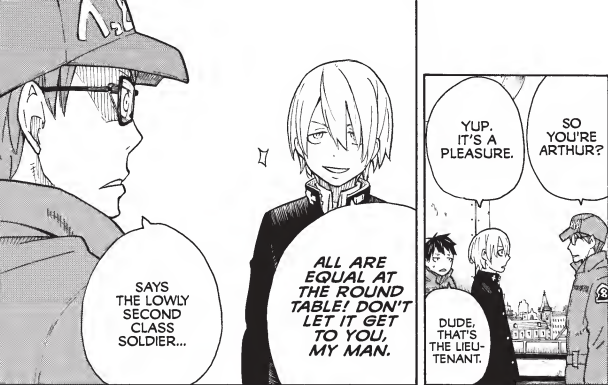
APPARENTLY SHINRA AND OUR NEW RECRUIT FS ARTHUR KNEW EACH OTHER AT THE ACADEMY.

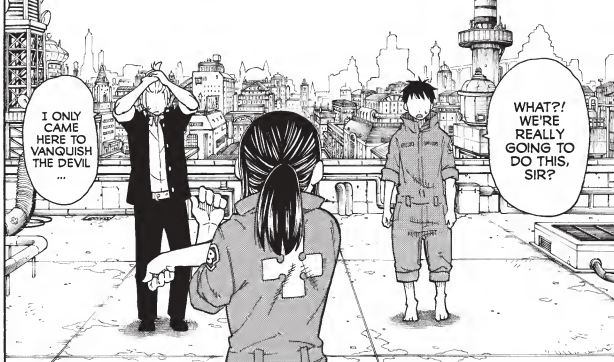
Note: FS is short for Fire Soldier.

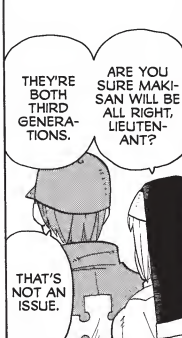


Y... YES, SIR...

FIRE SOLDIERS DO NOT PLAY WITH FIRE.







THEY'RE BOTH THIRD GENERATIONS.

ARE YOU SURE MAKI-SAN WILL BE ALL RIGHT, LIEUTENANT?

THAT'S NOT AN ISSUE.



WE'RE THIRD GENS...

ARE WE READY, SHE SAYS.



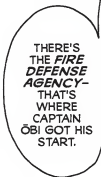
AND THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE MAKI AND ME.

The Holy Sol Temple

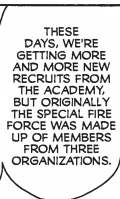


THEN THERE'S THE HOLY SOL TEMPLE, WHERE YOU CAME FROM.

The Fire Defense Agency



THERE'S THE FIRE DEFENSE AGENCY- THAT'S WHERE CAPTAIN ŌBI GOT HIS START.



THESE DAYS, WE'RE GETTING MORE AND MORE NEW RECRUITS FROM THE ACADEMY, BUT ORIGINALLY THE SPECIAL FIRE FORCE WAS MADE UP OF MEMBERS FROM THREE ORGANIZATIONS.



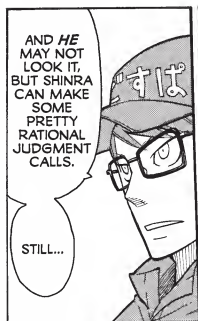
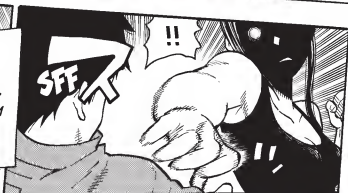
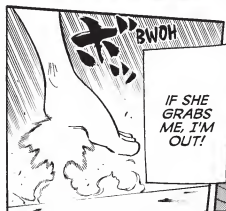
?!

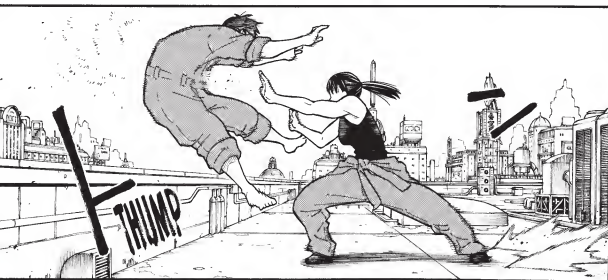
I PROBABLY SHOULD HOLD BACK, SHOULDN'T ...

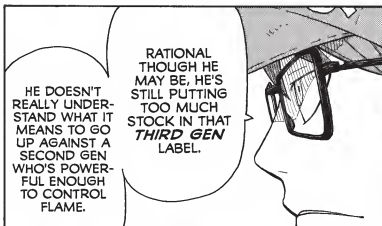


FORMER MILITARY.

SHE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT SHE KNOWS HOW TO DESTROY PEOPLE.







HE DOESN'T
REALLY UNDER-
STAND WHAT IT
MEANS TO GO
UP AGAINST A
SECOND GEN
WHO'S POWER-
FUL ENOUGH
TO CONTROL
FLAME.

RATIONAL
THOUGH HE
MAY BE, HE'S
STILL PUTTING
TOO MUCH
STOCK IN THAT
THIRD GEN
LABEL.



MAKI-
SAN,
SHOULD
YOU
REALLY
HAVE...?

SHINRA
...



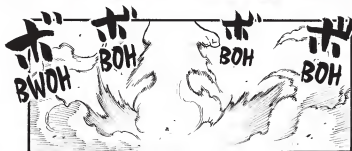
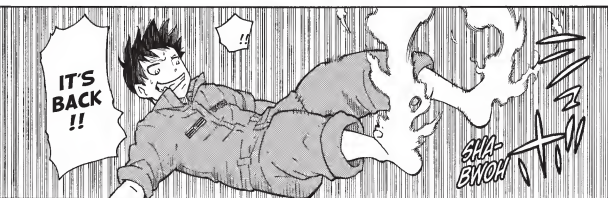
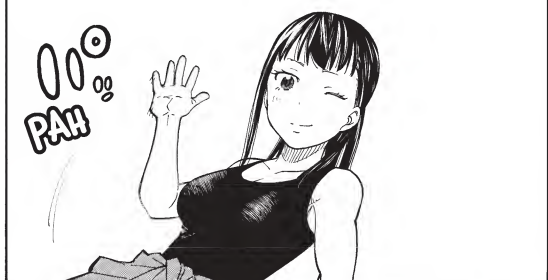
I'M
GONNA
DIE!!

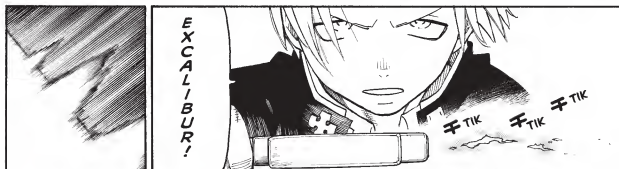
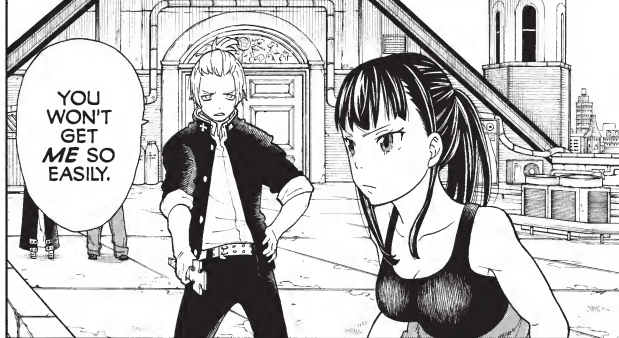
BUT I'M
SMILING
ABOUT
IT!

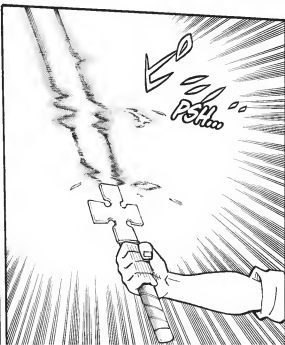
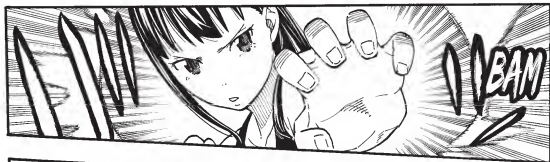
TOKYO



W
A
A
A
A
H
H
H
!!



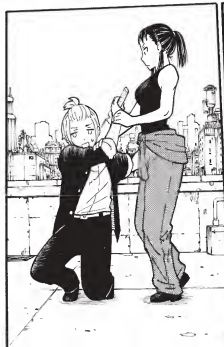
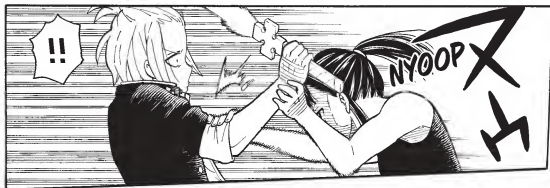


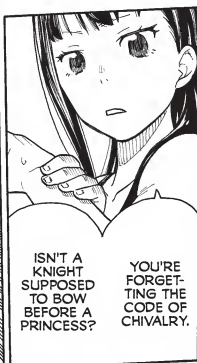




AS MATTER GOES
UP IN TEMPERATURE, IT
TRANSFORMS FROM SOLID
TO LIQUID TO GAS. IF IT
GETS ANY HOTTER, IT TURNS
INTO PLASMA. ARTHUR IS
USING HIS OWN FLAMES TO
CREATE PLASMA AND SHOOT
IT OUT OF THE HILT OF HIS
SWORD... IN OTHER WORDS,
HE'S USING A SUPER HIGH-
TEMPERATURE, ULTRA-
DENSE BLADE.

PLASMA
JET?





ISN'T A
KNIGHT
SUPPOSED
TO BOW
BEFORE A
PRINCESS?

YOU'RE
FORGET-
TING THE
CODE OF
CHIVALRY.

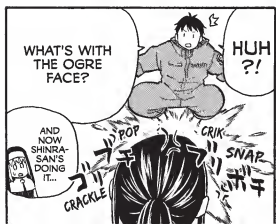


YOU
FIEND!
YOU'RE
NOT A
PRINCESS—
YOU'RE AN
OGRE!!

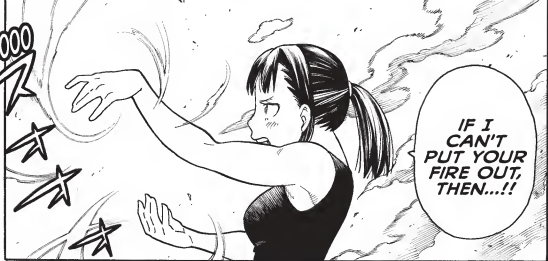


THAT'S
FOR BEING
RUDE TO
LIEUTENANT
HINAWA.





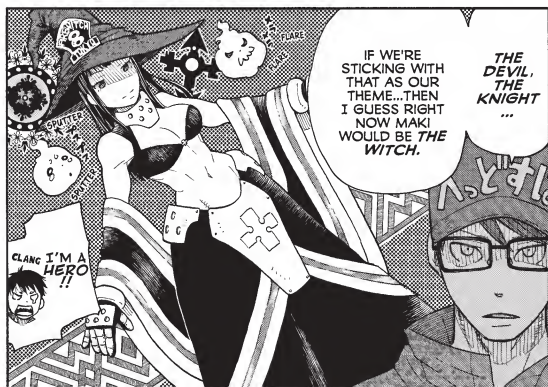
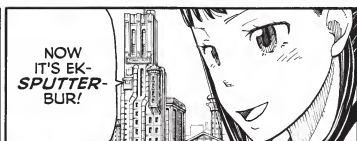
SWOOOO

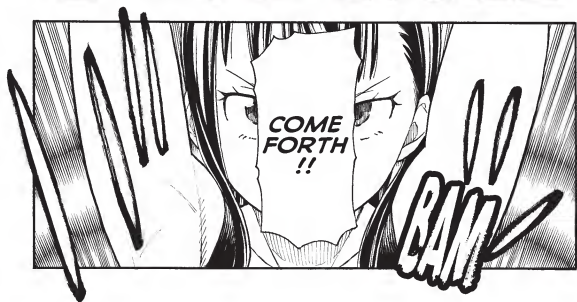


IF I
CAN'T
PUT YOUR
FIRE OUT,
THEN....!!



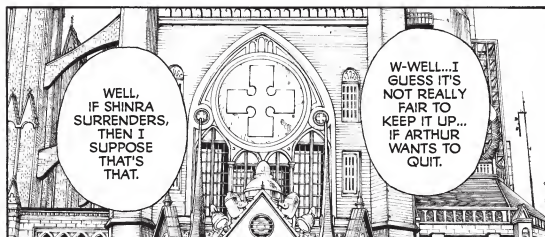
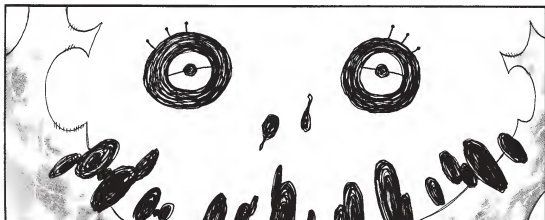
WHAT'S
WITH THE
LITTLE
FLARE-
FACED
DUDE?!

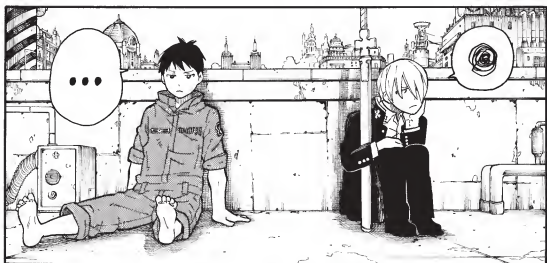




**BO
BO
BO-
BO
BO
BO-
B
W
O
H
!!!
...!**







MAN...
I CAN'T
BELIEVE I
WAS THAT
HELPLESS.



I HAVE
TO BE
STRONGER
THAN ANY-
ONE, IF I
WANT TO
BE A HERO
THAT CAN
PROTECT
EVERYONE!!

I HAVE
TO GET
STRONGER.

BO
BO
BO-
BO
BO
BO-
B
W
O
H
!!!

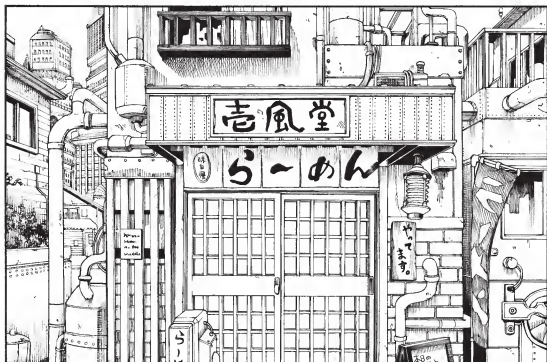


THAT
WEIRDO
BEAT
ME?

SHOCK!



FIRE FORCE

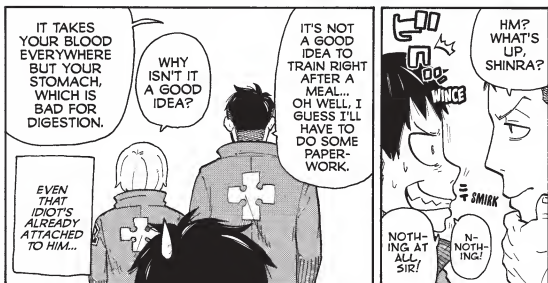
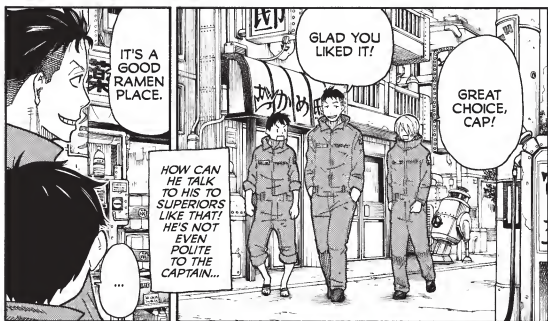


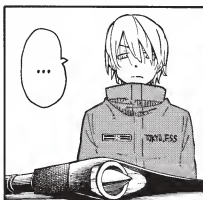
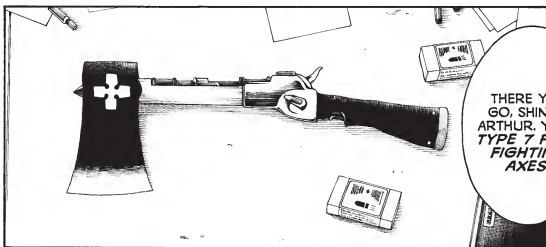
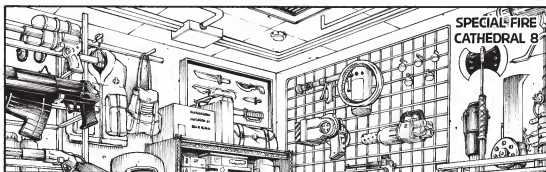
Storefront: Ippodo Ramen





CHAPTER III: THE HEART OF A FIRE SOLDIER

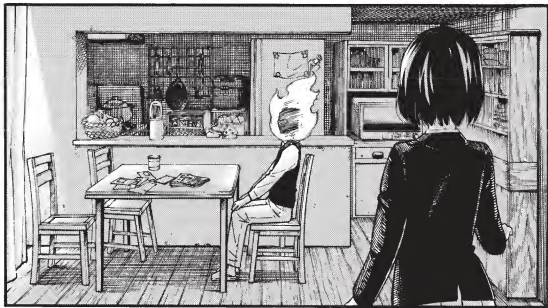
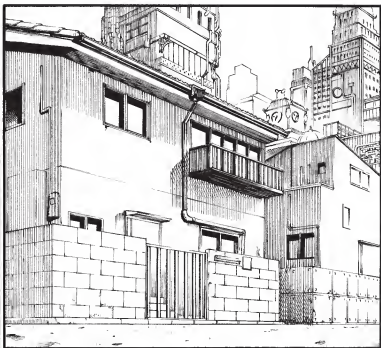


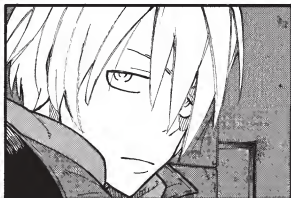
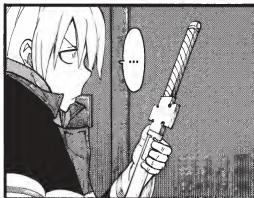
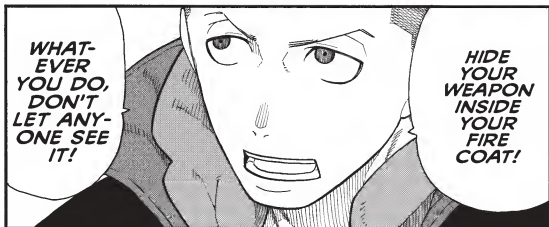
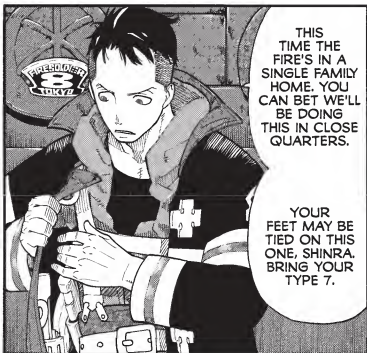
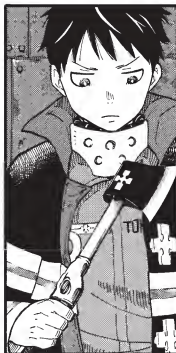


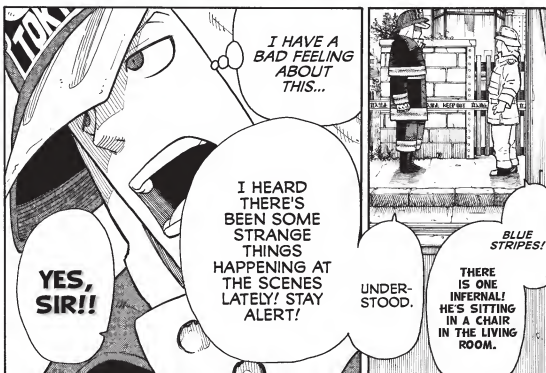
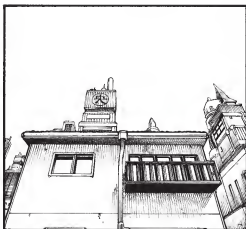


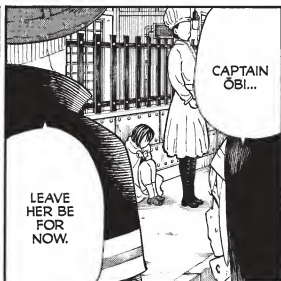
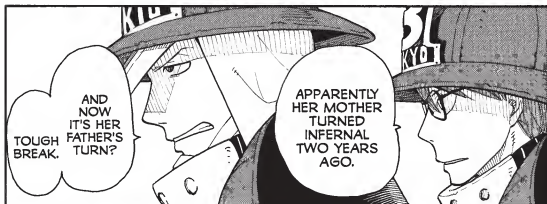
*About 66 lbs.

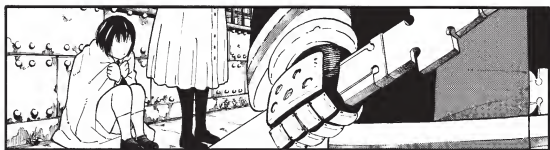














I THOUGHT
I TOLD
YOU NOT
TO SHOW
YOUR
WEAPONS
IN PUBLIC.

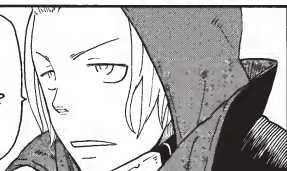


I DON'T
HAVE
TIME TO
LECTURE
YOU.

AND THEY
DIDN'T
TEACH US
TO HIDE
THEM AT THE
ACADEMY.

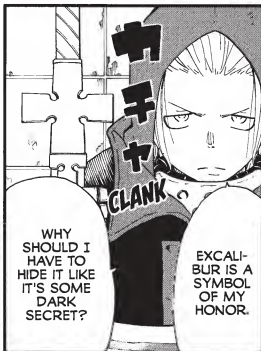
THERE'S
NO RULE
AGAINST IT
IN THE FIRE
SOLDIERS'
CODE...

WHY
NOT?



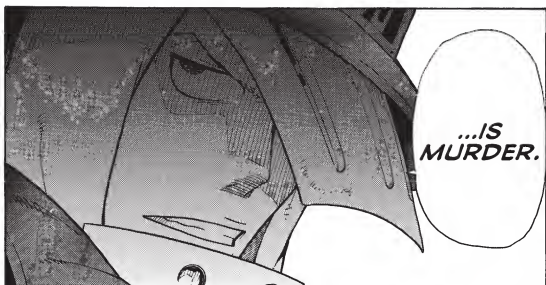
OUR MISSION
IN THE SPECIAL
FIRE FORCE IS
TO FIGHT AND
EXTERMINATE
INFERNALS.

THEY WERE
HUMAN ONCE...
WE GIVE IT A
PRETTY NAME,
SAY WE'RE
"PUTTING THEM
TO REST." BUT
WHAT WE'RE
REALLY
DOING...



WHY
SHOULD I
HAVE TO
HIDE IT LIKE
IT'S SOME
DARK
SECRET?

EXCALI-
BUR IS A
SYMBOL
OF MY
HONOR.

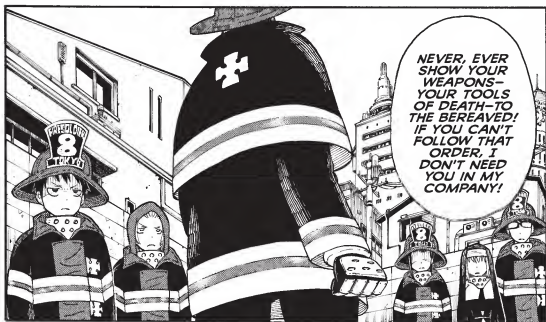


*...IS
MURDER.*

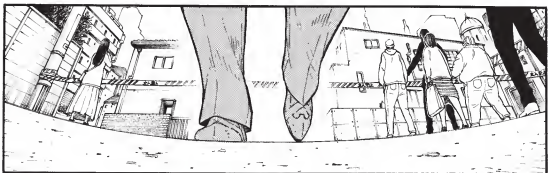


*BUT THINK
ABOUT HOW
THE FAMILIES
FEEL. WE'RE
FIGHTING TO
KILL THEIR
LOVED
ONES.*

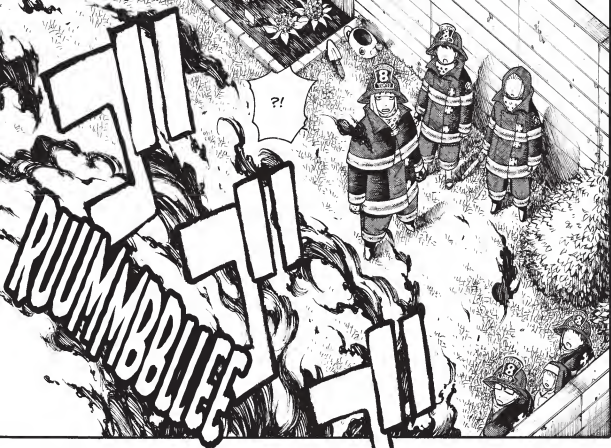
*THERE ARE
SOME SPECIAL
FIRE SOLDIERS
WHO CONSIDER
THEMSELVES
TO BE HOLY
MEN AND TAKE
PLEASURE IN
FIGHTING
INFERNALS.*



*NEVER, EVER
SHOW YOUR
WEAPONS—
YOUR TOOLS
OF DEATH—TO
THE BEREAVED!
IF YOU CAN'T
FOLLOW THAT
ORDER, I
DON'T NEED
YOU IN MY
COMPANY!*







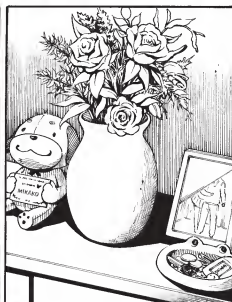
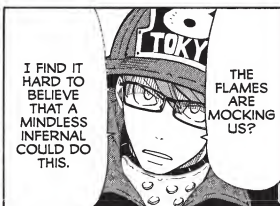


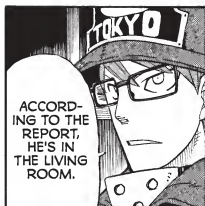
FIRE FORCE





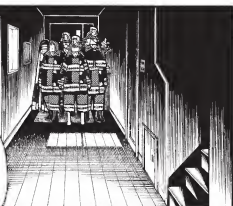
CHAPTER IV: THE SINISTER BLASPHEMER



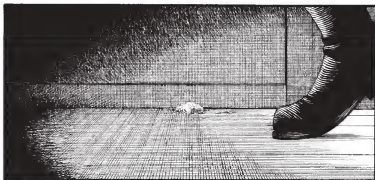


IT'S QUIET.
LIKE THE PLACE IS EMPTY.

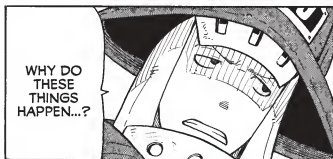
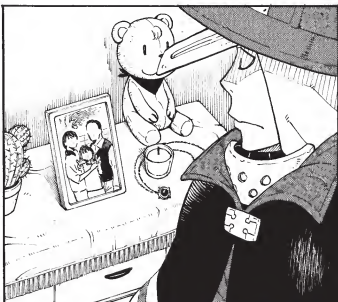
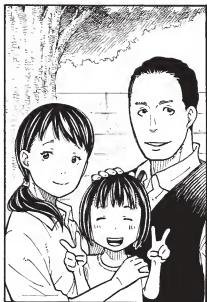
ARE YOU SURE THERE'S AN INFERNAL IN HERE?



AND THERE WAS THAT SKULL FLAME OUTSIDE! IT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO ALL THOSE WEIRD ACCIDENTS! WATCH YOUR BACKS!







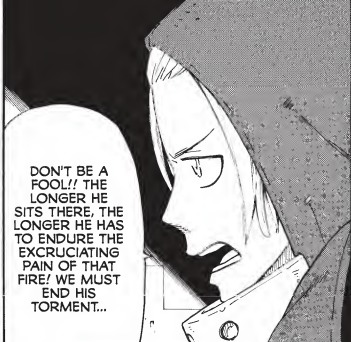


OKAY,
ARTHUR.
GET TO
IT.



...

DON'T BE A
FOOL!! THE
LONGER HE
SITS THERE, THE
LONGER HE HAS
TO ENDURE THE
EXCRUCIATING
PAIN OF THAT
FIRE! WE MUST
END HIS
TORMENT...



THE
FLAME
IS THE
SOUL'S
BREATH...

LET MY
EXCALIBUR
GIVE YOU
REPOSE.



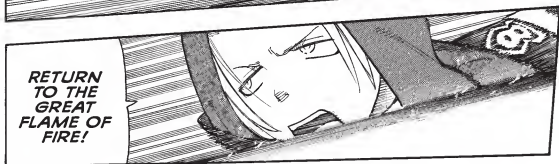
WE CAN'T
LET YOU
SUFFER
ANY MORE
THAN YOU
ALREADY
HAVE.

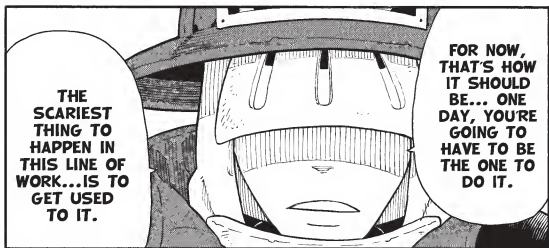


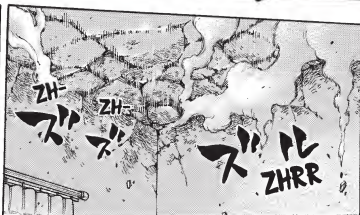
ASHES
AS
ASHES...

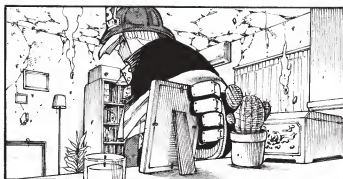
THE
BLACK
SMOKE IS
THE SOUL'S
RELEASE...

SWOOSH

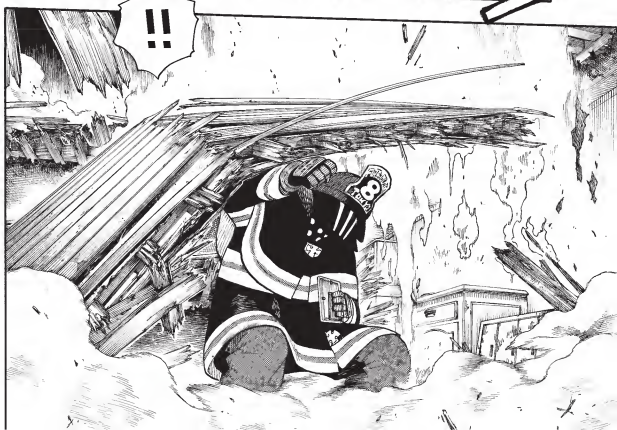




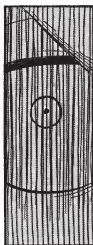
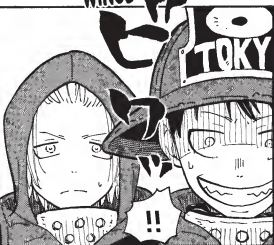




SHOOM!!



WINCE



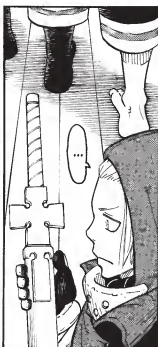
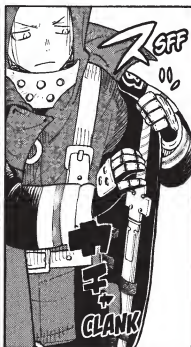
BUT I
WORK
OUT
EVERY
DAY.

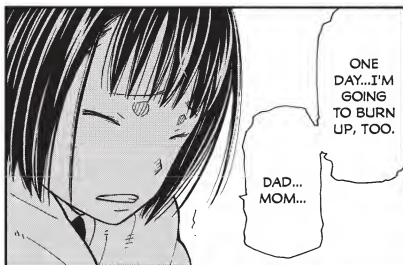
I
DON'T
KNOW
WHO'S
BEHIND
THIS...



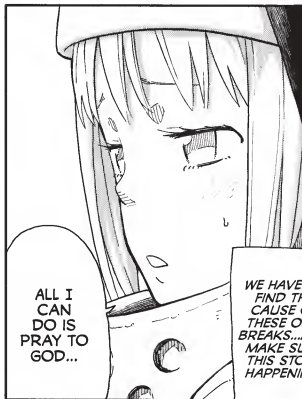
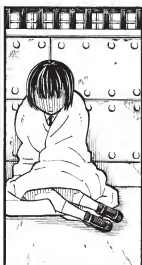
AND
YOU'VE
TAKEN
YOUR
PRAG-
TICAL
JOKE
TOO
FAR!!!







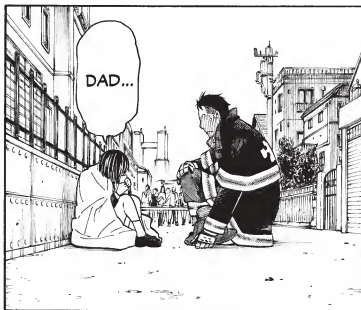
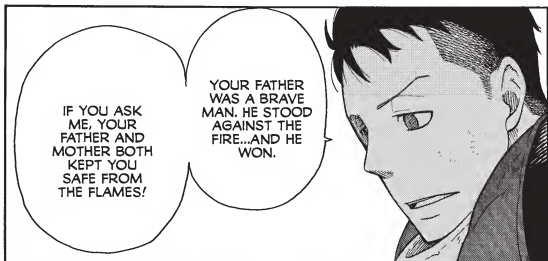
ONE
DAY...I'M
GOING
TO BURN
UP, TOO.

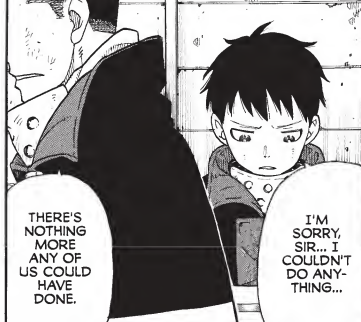


WHAT
DO YOU
SAY TO
SOME-
ONE AT
A TIME
LIKE
THIS?

WE HAVE TO
FIND THE
CAUSE OF
THESE OUT-
BREAKS...AND
MAKE SURE
THIS STOPS
HAPPENING.







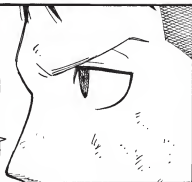
THERE'S
NOTHING
MORE
ANY OF
US COULD
HAVE
DONE.

I'M
SORRY,
SIR... I
COULDN'T
DO ANY-
THING...



I'M GONNA...
NO, WE'RE
GONNA STOP
THE SPONTANE-
OUS HUMAN
COMBUSTION!
AND WE
BETTER DO
IT FAST!

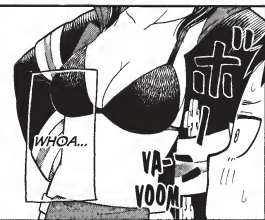
AND
THAT'S WHY
WE NEED TO
REMEMBER
HOW THE
FAMILY FEELS...
THEN DIVE
INTO THE SEA
OF FLAMES,
AND PRAY.



YES,
SIR.

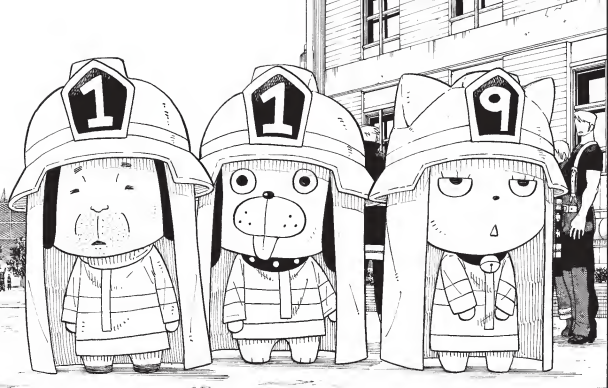
ISN'T
THAT
RIGHT,
SISTER?

FIRE FORCE





CHAPTER V: THE ROOKIE FIRE SOLDIER GAMES



YOU'VE
NEVER
SEEN THEM
BEFORE?
THEY'RE THE
FIRE DEFENSE
AGENCY'S
MASCOTS,
WONE WONE
NYINE!

ONE
ONE
NINE?

WONE
WONE
NYINE!

WHOA...
WHAT'S
WITH THE
WEIRD
MASCOTS?

WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
TWO DOGS AND
A CAT? THINGS
ALWAYS GET
WEIRD WHEN THE
GUYS UPSTAIRS
GET INVOLVED.

THEY
STARTED OUT
AS TWO DOGS AND A
CAT, BUT THE AGENCY
BIGWIGS COMPLAINED.
THEY WERE ALL, "WHAT
KIND OF A MESSAGE
DOES IT SEND THAT ALL
THE MASCOTS ARE
ANIMALS?" SO THEY
MADE ONE OF THEM
A DOG-FACED
OLD MAN.

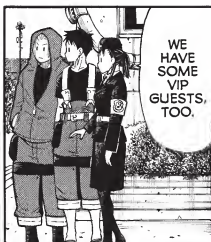
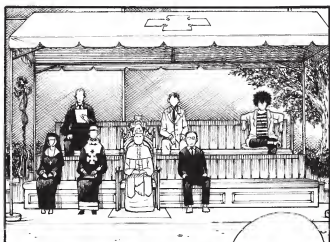
OH!
YOU MEAN
MAMORU-
KUN?

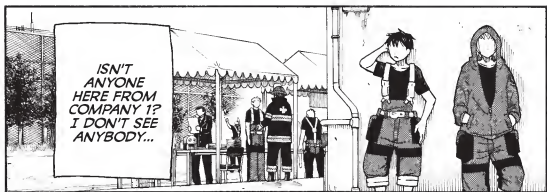
FYI, the dog is
Res-kun and the
cat is Q-chan.

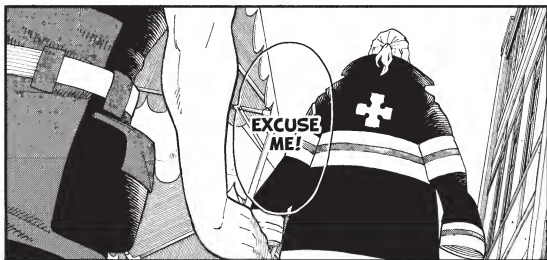
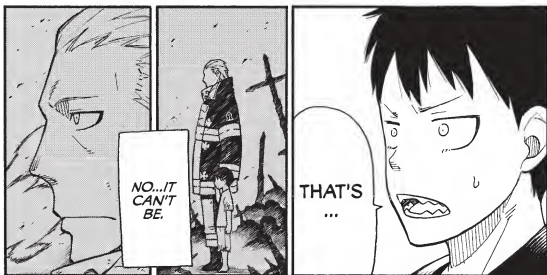
ONE OF
'EM'S KIND
OF AN OLD
MAN.

WHAT
?!

AWW, BUT
MAMORU-
KUN IS SO
CUTE!









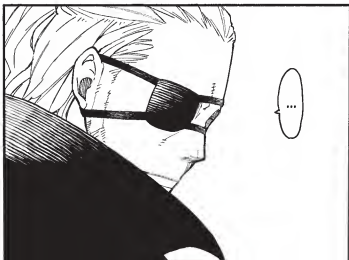


COMPANY
1 CAPTAIN!
PLEASE, IT
WONT TAKE
LONG!

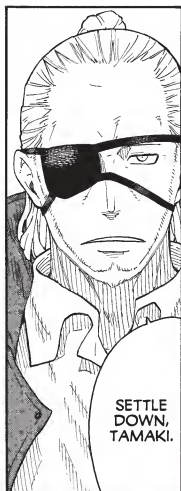


WHAT
ARE YOU
GRINNING
ABOUT,
CREEP?!

ACK!!
IT'S NOT
WHAT IT
LOOKS
LIKE!!
I'M
SORRY
!!



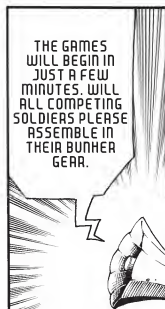




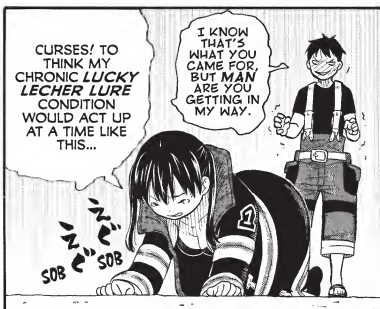
SETTLE
DOWN,
TAMAKI.



SQUEEZE



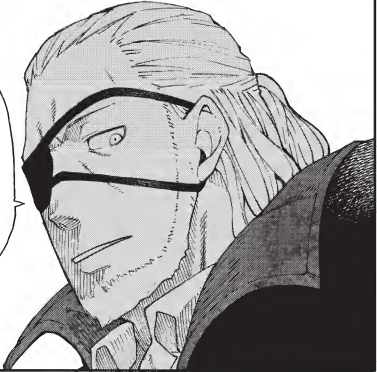
THE GAMES
WILL BEGIN IN
JUST A FEW
MINUTES. WILL
ALL COMPETING
SOLDIERS PLEASE
ASSEMBLE IN
THEIR BUNKER
GEAR.



CURSES! TO
THINK MY
CHRONIC *LUCKY
LECHER LURE*
CONDITION
WOULD ACT UP
AT A TIME LIKE
THIS...

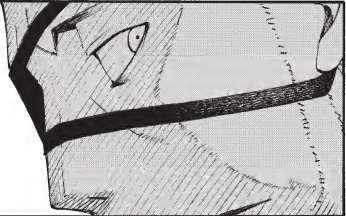
I KNOW
THAT'S
WHAT YOU
CAME FOR,
BUT MAN
ARE YOU
GETTING IN
MY WAY.

SOB
SOB



**FS SHINRA,
WAS IT? DO
YOU HAVE
ANY IDEA
HOW MANY
FIRES THERE
ARE EVERY
YEAR?**

**I'M
TERRIBLY
SORRY, BUT
I CAN'T
REMEMBER
ONE SPECIFIC
INCIDENT
FROM 12
YEARS
AGO.**

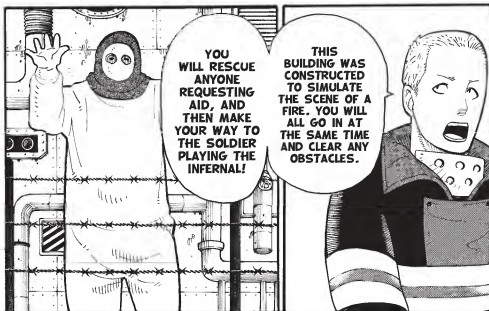
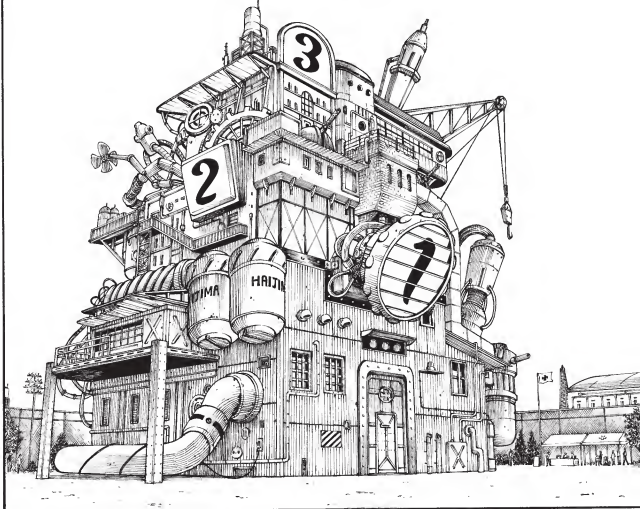


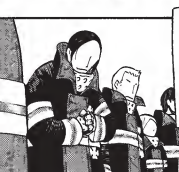
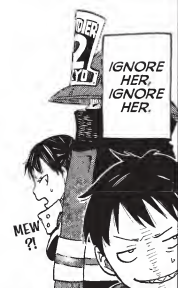
**THE
GAMES
ARE
ABOUT
TO BEGIN.
GO GET
READY.**



**I THINK
YOU'RE
HIDING
SOME-
THING.**

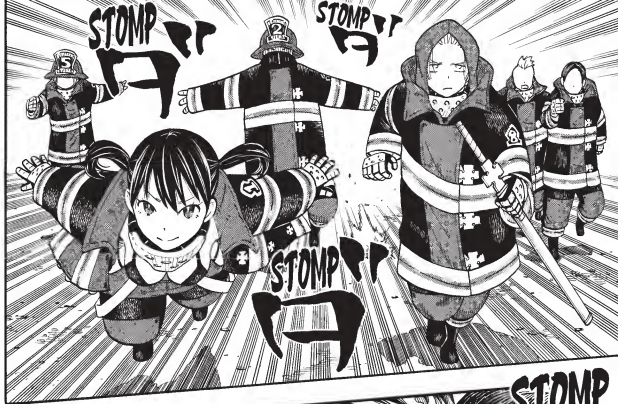






I WONDER
WHAT KIND
OF IGNITION
POWERS
THEY HAVE.





NEKOMATA!!

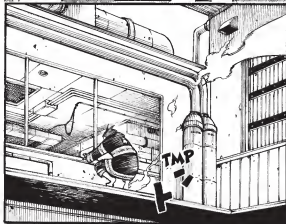


THAT'S DIRTY.

This is why I hate devils.



DAM-MIT!!

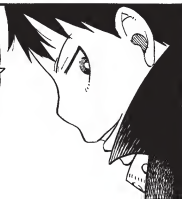


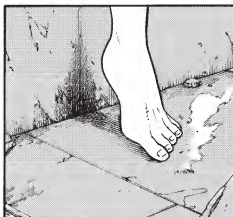
TMP



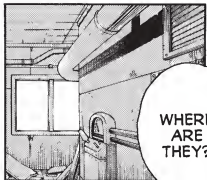
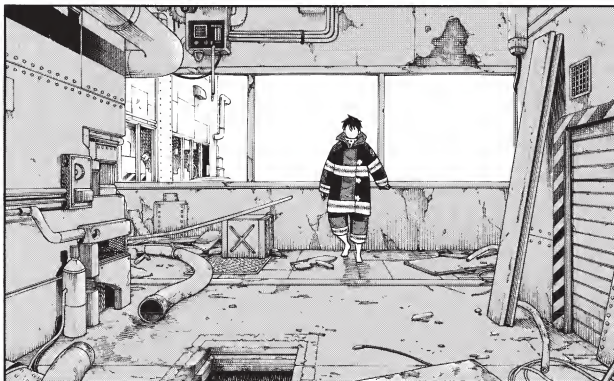
FWOOSH

A HERO ALWAYS APPEARS FROM THE SKIES!!





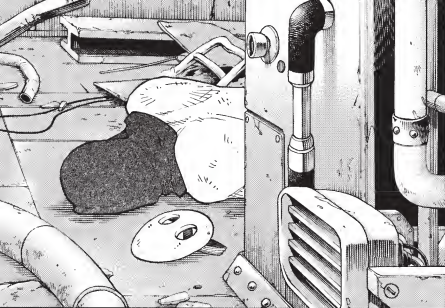
ANYBODY HOME?



WHERE ARE THEY?

FIRST, RESCUE ANY "VICTIMS" ...

I NEED TO GET THIS OVER WITH SO I CAN FIND COMPANY 1'S CAPTAIN AND PRESS HIM FOR ANSWERS.

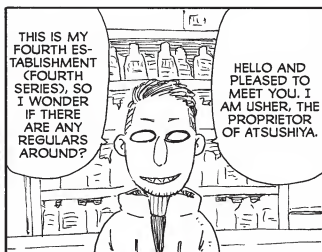


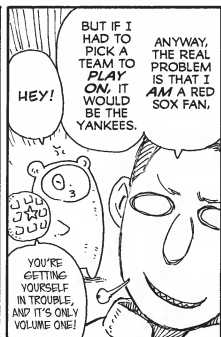
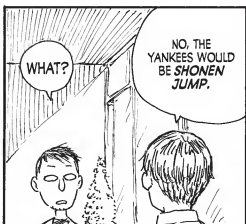
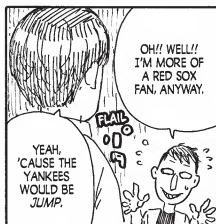
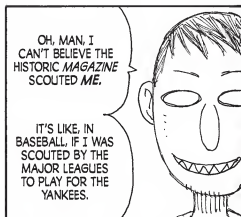




TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 2!!

AFTERWORD MANGA: ATSUSHIYA





Translation Notes:

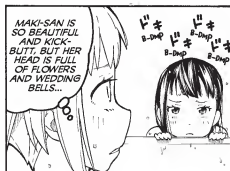
Látom, page 27

This is the word used by the Fire Force at the close of the prayer for the burning souls, sort of like “amen.” Its origins are unclear, but there are many theories. It may have come from a Hungarian word meaning, “I see.” There is also an Icelandic word, *lát*, which means “death.” The religious organization affiliated with the Fire Force is the Holy Sol Temple, which honors the sun, so it’s also possible that the L is meant to be an R, as a reference to the Egyptian sun god Ra. And finally, it may be an anagram of the Japanese word *tomurai*, which refers to mourning for the dead.



Her head is full of ... wedding bells, page 40

In Japan, they have an idiom describing people who aren't always willing to face reality, usually meant as playful teasing. The phrase is *atama ga ohana-batake*, which literally means “his/her head is a field of flowers.” In Maki’s case, Iris can’t help but upgrade it to *ohana-otome-batake*, making it a “field of flowers and girliness.”



Flashover, page 68

A flashover is basically when an entire room explodes. What happens is the fire in the room causes everything to get hot, which in turn causes the exposed surfaces to release flammable gases. When those gases reach the right (or rather, wrong) temperature, they ignite and everything burns.

Onion face, page 103

In Japan, knights have been associated with onions since at least as far back as the 1990 release of *Final Fantasy III*, in which one of the jobs available to the playable characters is Onion Knight. Unfortunately, the origin of the association has been obscured through time, as not even the game developers can remember why they used that name.

Bobobo-bo Bo-bobwoh, page 129

Maki’s familiars get their names from the onomatopoeia of the sounds created by the types of fires they represent. *Bo*, often rendered by the

translators as “bwoh,” is usually the ignition of a fire, but can also be the roaring of a large fire such as this one. Of course, the name was likely also influenced by the hero of the manga *Bobobo-bo Bo-bobo*, although his powers are not fire-related.

Not polite to the captain, page 135

In the Japanese language, when speaking to other people, one would use either *teinei*go (polite speech) or *tameguchi* (plain speech). When talking to a superior, such as a captain or someone in authority, the proper thing to do is to at least use the minimum level of *teinei*go, and Arthur doesn't even bother to do that.

Blowing smoke, page 164

More accurately, our prankster friend says that the “Special Fire Force” is *kinakusai*, which means both “suspicious” and “smelling of smoke.” The translators attempted to retain the smoky imagery with an English idiom, which we hope conveys a similar meaning. Ideally, the readers will also be put in mind of the phrase, “where there's smoke, there's fire,” because *kinakusai* can also allude to imminent danger.

Wone Wone Nyine, page 171

The translators would like to apologize for the confusing spellings of these mascots' names. Their names come from a combination of the sounds dogs and cats make, and the numbers one-one-nine. In Japan, the emergency number to call the fire department is not 911, but 119. Because a Japanese dog says *wan* and a Japanese cat says *nyan*, this team of mascots can easily call for help. The old man, Mamoru-kun, is named for the Japanese word for “to protect.”

Nekomata, page 183

According to Japanese folklore, if a cat lives long enough, its tail will split into two and it will become a supernatural creature known as a *nekomata*. While the full nature of Tamaki's powers has yet to be revealed, they do seem to give her cat-like reflexes.

Atsushiya and Usher, page 188

In Japan, an easy way to name a business you'd like to start would be to add *ya* (“room” or “shop”) to the end of your name, for example. In this case, the Atsushiya was named after the creator of this manga, Atsushi Ohkubo. Another word that can be written with all the same characters as Atsushiya is the English word “usher,” and thus the proprietor gets his name.

Fire Force 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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